

Speaker starts Commons row over MI5 case

By Richard Evans, Political Correspondent
The Speaker of the House of Commons took the highly unusual step last night of overruling the Prime Minister and insisting that the Wright spy book case being heard in Australia was not sub-judice.

Spy case exposes Britain's witness

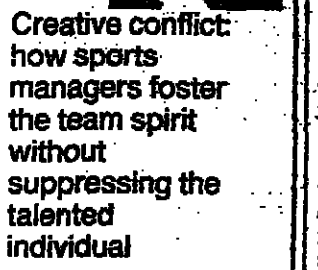
From Stephen Taylor, Sydney
Britain's top civil servant was exposed to uncomfortably intensive cross-examination yesterday in an Australian court hearing the Thatcher Government's application for an order to suppress Mr Peter Wright's book on MI5.

Panic in Wall Street over Boesky tapes

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent
Share prices on the New York stock market plunged dramatically yesterday as nervousness, triggered by the investigations into Mr Ivan Boesky's insider share dealing, turned into panic.

Tomorrow

The will to win
Creative conflict: how sports managers foster the team spirit without suppressing the talented individual



Portfolio
The £4,000 prize in yesterday's Times Portfolio Gold competition was shared by three readers - Mr Lawrence Coombs, of Leytonstone, London; Miss K.M. Kent, of the British Embassy, Bonn; and Mr H. Mavir, of Worthington, Cumbria.

TIMES BUSINESS
Deal defence
Sir James Goldsmith defended his American takeover activity before a noisy congressional hearing Page 25

TIMES SPORT
Salonen leads
Timo Salonen, of Finland, driving a Peugeot 205, safely negotiated tricky conditions in the Lake District to take the lead in the Lombard RAC rally Page 42

TIMES FOCUS
New technology between Britain and the rest of the EEC must share Information Technology if jobs are to be created Special Report, pages 20-21

Parliament
Armstrong admission 14
Role queried 14
Thatcher with potentially embarrassing questions about alleged Soviet infiltration of Britain's security services.

The Commons clash came after the Prime Minister was questioned about the Government's court move in Australia. Mr Geoffrey Lofthouse, Labour MP for Postlethwaite and Castleford, said that if Mr Wright's book was correct then Mrs Thatcher had misled the Commons in 1981 when she declared that there was no evidence to suggest Sir Roger was a spy.

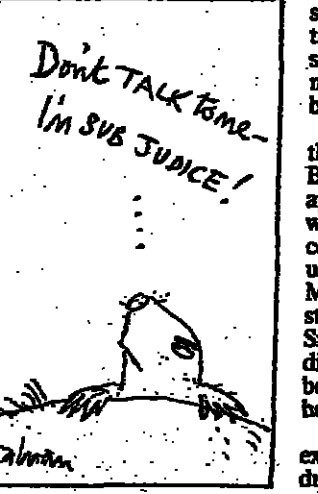
Mrs Thatcher told MPs yesterday: "I stand by and reaffirm the statement I made on that subject. The case is sub-judice." She said that Mr Wright owed a lifelong service of confidentiality to the Crown. Publication of his book would violate that, and therefore Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, had applied for an injunction to block the book.

Extra arms talks in Geneva
From Christopher Walker, Moscow
US and Soviet negotiators have agreed to hold a special week-long session in Geneva during the long Christmas recess to discuss nuclear and space arms.

Women terrorists shot Renault chief
From Diana Geddes, Paris
Action Directe, the extreme-Left French terrorist group, yesterday claimed responsibility for the murder of M Georges Besse, managing director of the state-owned Renault car company, on Monday night. Two young women shot M Besse outside his home in the Montparnasse district of Paris.

New claim of TV bias
Dr Julian Lewis, a prominent critic of CNN, who stood as Conservative candidate for Swansea West in the last election. The monitoring was done by Mr Simon Clark, a 27-year-old freelance journalist.

Hurd to consider firearms amnesty
By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent
A government-sponsored working party yesterday demanded a firearms amnesty to face the huge increase in armed raids on banks, building societies and cash-in-transit.



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Welcome twang from the Saudi hero prince

From Alan Hamilton, Riyadh
Sultan Bin Salman looked like any of the 100 Bedouins around him, swarthy and hook-nosed in Arab headdress and tan robe as he strode the half-acre of fine carpets laid on the sand in the midst of nowhere for a dazzling desert entertainment.

Left-wing councils lift ban on Times

By Michael McCarthy
Seven more local authorities have rescinded their banning of The Times from public libraries following the High Court's decision that such bans are unlawful.

Government on course for borrowing target

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent
The public sector borrowing requirement, central to the Government's economic strategy, was just £9 million last month, reduced by strong corporation tax revenues.

Russians say Kim is alive

The official Soviet news agency Tass gave further evidence that President Kim Il Sung, the North Korean leader, was alive and apparently in control of his country when it reported that he opened talks in Pyongyang with the Mongolian leader yesterday.



The Princess of Wales, setting a fashion trend with silk slacks under a loose dress, with the Prince when they travelled 60 miles into the Saudi Arabian desert yesterday.

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Bid to escape 25
Yesterday deferred a decision to ban member firms from acting for Mr Boesky until it has more information from the SEC. As an interim measure it has instructed all member firms to report any approach they receive to carry out dealings on behalf of Mr Boesky.

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PIAGET advertisement featuring two watches and the text 'Piaget time... measured only in gold'.

NEWS SUMMARY

January trial for Belfast MP

Mr Peter Robinson, MP for East Belfast and deputy leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, will stand trial in Dublin next January on 11 charges, ranging from assaulting Garda to malicious damage, arising out of a "loyalist" incursion into Clostrinet, a village in the Irish Republic, last August.

Mr Robinson, accompanied by his wife, Iris, and the Rev William McCrea, MP for Mid Ulster, was driven from the North in a bullet-proof Mercedes car which was escorted from the border by members of the republic's special task force.

During the hearing, at the Special Criminal Court in Dublin, Mr Justice Robert Barr was told there would be 59 witnesses at the trial which is expected to last a week. Mr Robinson was remanded on continuing bail of Ir£10,000 (£8,000).

Diesel record for BR

British Rail has set a new world speed record for a diesel-powered train. A speed of 144.7mph was achieved on Sunday on a measured mile of the track between York and Darlington (Rodney Corvett writes).

British Rail said it had beaten its own earlier record, set in 1973, of 143mph. The new record was established by two InterCity 125 power units which, in normal service, operate at speeds of up to 125mph.

Thames's Colliery big profit delayed

Thames Television has announced record interim profits of more than £10 million, after its partial flotation in June. British Coal said yesterday.

The new pit is to be developed at a site known as Hawkhurst Moor, west of Coventry, and a planning application was due to have been submitted this summer.

Falling oil prices, and environmental protests, caused British Coal to reconsider the scheme.

Games debt demand

Liberal MPs are pressing for a select committee to investigate Mr Robert Maxwell's Commonwealth Games company, which owes 10 large creditors about £1.9 million (Martin Fletcher writes).

The company incurred debts of £3.9 million after the boycott last August by 32 countries. Ninety small and medium creditors had been paid £2 million owed.

Finney's winner

Albert Finney (right) was named best actor of the year in the London Standard Drama Awards yesterday for his role as a gangster on the run in the Lyle Kessler play, *Orpheus*, while Julia McKenzie won the best actress award as a vicar's wife in Alan Ayckbourn's *Woman in Mind*.

Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Phantom of the Opera* was voted best musical, and the Royal Shakespeare Company took the best play award with *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*.



Ministers dismiss Falkland talks offer

By Sheila Gynn Political Staff

Argentina's call for global negotiations on the Falkland Islands was dismissed as "old wine in new bottles" last night by Lord Trefgarne, Minister of State for Defence Procurement.

His swift denunciation of the offer was seen in Westminster as further confirmation that the Government believed it was no more than propaganda, to coincide with President Alfonsín's meeting with President Reagan.

Argentina's offer to declare a formal end to hostilities over the Falklands is considered virtually a dead letter in Whitehall.

Deeply unimpressed officials completed examining the fine print of the Buenos Aires declaration yesterday with very little hope for progress.

If the document had proposed to end hostilities in exchange for Britain dropping its declaration of a 150 mile fishing protection zone - as Buenos Aires initially suggested it did - there would have been considerable interest.

But a close reading of the obscurely worded document convinced officials that the offer remained as firmly linked as ever to the Falklands sovereignty.

One source said: "We have always wondered when they would play the end to hostilities card. Four years after the event and so closely tied to sovereignty we cannot regard this as any kind of concession."

Speaking in the House of Lords, Lord Trefgarne made it plain that the Government saw no change in the Argentine Government's intention, first and foremost, to discuss the sovereignty of the Falklands. That was a position the Government could not accept.

He also described press reports claiming Spain did not recognize the 150-mile interim fishing zone around the Falklands as "inaccurate and exaggerated". It was in the interests of the large Spanish fleet to ensure that fishing was orderly and controlled.

He came under repeated pressure from Labour and Alliance peers to give some sign of a willingness to talk with President Alfonsín's government.

Navy hero of Falklands war severely reprimanded

By David Sapsted

A Royal Navy captain awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for heroism during the Falklands war was severely reprimanded at a court martial yesterday over the loss of secret papers on a Thames towpath.

Captain Alan West, aged 38, who commanded the frigate *Ardent* when she was sunk after being attacked by 11 Argentine bombers in San Carlos Water, pleaded guilty at a hearing at HMS Drake, Devonport, to five breaches of the Naval Discipline Act.

During the court martial he was described as "an outstanding officer of his generation" by Admiral Jeremy Black, deputy chief of the Defence Staff.

The charges arose out of the discovery this year of two bundles of classified documents on a towpath at Sonning, near Reading.

Found by a journalist and published by a Sunday newspaper, the documents included a discussion paper on radical cuts in the Navy's surface and submarine fleet.

Captain West, then an assistant director of naval staff at the Ministry of Defence in London, had taken 59 pages of documents from his Whitehall office two days before their loss, to work on them at home.

Three of the charges related to his removing them without informing the proper authorities and not keeping them in a security briefcase, a fourth accused him of failing to take proper care of them, and the fifth was laid because he failed to inform the ministry immediately after their loss.

Lieutenant-Commander Patrick Elvin, for the prosecution, told the five-man board that Captain West had put the documents in his coat pocket before he went for a walk along the towpath on Friday, September 12. He was due to catch a train from Reading and decided to exercise a friend's dog to kill time before getting the train.

Captain West put the documents in his coat because he thought it would be safer than leaving them in his briefcase in the car.

Commander Shaun Lyons, a naval barrister serving as the accused's friend, said that when the loss was discovered, Captain West immediately retraced his steps, and, failing to find the documents, informed the local police who also began a search.

He had intended to inform the Ministry of Defence on the Monday, said Commander Lyons. Captain West considered there was no point in informing it before because nothing could be achieved until the Monday.

"Though the documents were classified, they were not operational. Their loss could not compromise naval operations," Commander Lyons added.

In fact, before Captain West could inform the ministry, the *Mail on Sunday* had broken the story.

Commander Lyons, who appealed to the court to impose the minimum sentence of a reprimand, called Admiral Black as a character witness.

The admiral, who commanded the *Invincible* during the Falklands campaign, said that he regarded Captain West "as an outstanding officer of his generation."

"He is a first-class ambassador for the Royal Navy and, indeed, the country.

"He is a thrusting, operational opportunist, displaying dash and flair but always tempered with good judgement."

Commodore Nigel Kettlewell, president of the board, sentenced Captain West to a severe reprimand and the second most lenient judgement the court could impose.

Commander Lyons said afterwards: "Captain West's main feeling is one of relief that he regarded Captain West "as an outstanding officer of his generation."

He is now delighted he can continue with his normal duties.

● Captain West is unlikely to have damaged his promotion prospects.

Navy sources said that the severe reprimand would go down on his record but under the *Rehabilitation of Offenders Act*, the black mark will be struck off after five years.

One source said: "Captain West has only been a captain for two years and you have to be one for nine years before you can be considered for promotion. So by then the severe reprimand will have gone from his record."



Captain Alan West: lost secret documents.

Nuclear power inquiry

By Martin Fletcher Political Reporter

The select committee on energy is to conduct an immediate inquiry into allegations about the safety and costs of the nuclear power programme made in *The Times* on November 6.

Sir Ian Lloyd, its chairman, said last night that the allegations, strongly denied by the Central Electricity Generating Board, raised matters of such importance that it was essential the facts were established.

The first article, headlined "Nuclear power plants hit by corrosion fear", said that serious corrosion had been discovered at the two Hinkley Point reactors in Somerset.

The front-page article alleged that this raised deep doubts about the future of nine similar Magnox stations.

The second article, headlined "N-plant tombs to stand for century", stated that first-generation nuclear stations would stand for 100 years while the reactors "cooled down" because the alternative was to spend £2.7 billion dismantling each station.

On November 7 the CEBG stated that the first article was "factually inaccurate, unsupported by evidence and totally unjustified in the main conclusions it draws".

The Nuclear Installations Inspectorate had agreed to the continued operation of the Hinkley Point reactors subject to further inspection, and there was no evidence that other Magnox reactors were affected by this corrosion. The 30-year lifetime plan remained unchanged.

The CEBG also told the committee that the £2.7 billion decommissioning cost covered all the Magnox reactors.

Committee members said yesterday that they were not passing judgement on *The Times* reports, though Sir Ian criticized the newspaper for failing to publish the CEBG statement or his subsequent letter to the editor.

Two held in £60,000 counterfeit operation

By Stewart Tandler Crime Reporter

Two men were charged yesterday with a robbery of £60,000 during a police undercover operation involving counterfeit money.

A third man was sent to hospital after the police operation ended with officers crashing through hotel windows.

The two men, who will appear before Slough magistrates today, are Mr Ian Stent, aged 39, from East Wittering, Sussex, and Mr Keith Moss, aged 37, from Hampton, Middlesex. They are accused of robbing Charles Hill of £60,000.

The operation began after London detectives received information that counterfeit United States dollar bills with a face value of \$500,000 were on sale. Members of the Yard's counterfeit currency squad working under cover with officers from the number nine regional crime squad.

A police squad broke into a hotel room near Heathrow Airport, as a result of using bugging devices. A policeman was slightly cut as the men struggled with officers, who were helped by a police helicopter and dogs.

Day tripper's railway death

A postman who often fell asleep in trains was found with multiple injuries beside a railway line in London after setting off for his home in Sittingbourne, Kent.

Dr Paul Knapman, the Westminster coroner, recorded a verdict of accidental death on Keith Siddle, aged 33, who had spent a day out with colleagues in Margate.

Bird deserts winter sun

Hundreds of bird watchers have flocked to see a Desert Wheatear, a bird rarely seen in Britain, which has arrived at South Walney nature reserve near Barrow, Cumbria.

The bird, a member of the thrush family, comes from the deserts of North Africa and the Middle East.

Million tonne record broken

The 1,090 miners at Bittorpe colliery near Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, have produced their fastest one million tonnes, British Coal said yesterday.

They passed the one million tonnes target six weeks ahead of their previous annual record.

16, PREGNANT AND UNEMPLOYED. ALL THANKS TO THE WELFARE STATE.

IF SHE COULDN'T HAVE A COUNCIL HOUSE, WOULD SHE BE HAVING A BABY?

If you're pregnant, unmarried and unemployed you're entitled to claim anything from free milk to a free house.

Over the last decade, unmarried pregnancies in young people have doubled.

On Wednesday nights, 'The New Enlightenment' argues that a welfare state encourages a life of dependency.

IF PEOPLE COULD DO MORE WORK THERE'D BE FEWER ON THE DOLE

You can only earn £2 a day from working when you're on the dole.

Getting a job often means ending up with less money. Moving means giving up your council house.

Could the social security system be killing the spirit of independence needed to overcome poverty?

WITHOUT THE NHS, WE'D ALL BE A LOT HEALTHIER

Britain is the only country in the developed world where heart disease is still increasing.

Deaths from cervical cancer are still nearly as high as 15 years ago, although other Western European countries have halved the rate.

Could it be the NHS monopoly of health care has held back an improvement in standards?

4

WEDNESDAYS, 8.30 'THE NEW ENLIGHTENMENT' KEEP YOUR EYE ON

Taking the final furlong

There was a brief and private unsaddling ceremony at St Mary's parish church, Kintbury, beneath the Berkshire Downs, yesterday (Robin Young writes).

Sir Gordon Richards, the first, last and perfect knight of the turf, having run his course at the age of 82, was finally laid to rest.

It was a private family service, attended by some 40 relatives and close friends. A small group of villagers, Sir Gordon's neighbours for the past 16 years, gathered to watch.

Sir Gordon's home, Duff House in the village High Street, was just one final furlong from the church where the local vicar, the Rev Martin Gillham, intoned the final obsequies. Sir Gordon's stocky and diminutive frame, in a coffin as plain and honest as his Yorkshire brogue, was borne the last few yards by four pall-bearers.



One of the pieces of wood, with nails embedded in them, found by police scattered on the road near the News International plant at Wapping, east London, yesterday.

Nail attacks warning at Wapping

By Tim Jones

A police chief warned yesterday that unless print union supporters stopped their "irresponsible" campaign of attacks against lorries carrying News International newspapers it was only a matter of time before someone died.

The warning was given as police displayed three nail embedded planks which were recovered outside the company's plant at Wapping, east London, in the early hours of yesterday morning.

Deputy Assistant Commissioner Wyn Jones, of the Metropolitan Police, said last night: "People who use these weapons hide behind walls and throw them into the paths of oncoming lorries.

"Obviously, if a heavily laden lorry has a tyre punctured it can swerve out of control and severely injure or kill a passer by."

Police said later that two men were arrested concerning the nail board attacks and had been released pending further inquiries.

Former employees of the company, who went on strike and were subsequently dismissed, have been demonstrating outside the plant where *The Times*, *The Sunday Times*, *The Sun* and *News of the World* are produced.

Da Vinci notes fetch £2.5m

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A page of scribbled notes and drawings by Leonardo da Vinci was sold for a record breaking £2.5 million at Sotheby's in New York on Monday night.

The seller was Mr John R Gaines, whose father founded the Gaines Dog Food Company and invented that pet's delight, the Gainesburger. The purchaser was Mr Adrian Ward-Jackson, the London dealer, acting on behalf of the Getty Museum of Malibu, California.

The sale of 46 drawings collected by John Gaines since 1972 was the biggest blockbuster in the drawings field New York has ever seen. Mr Gaines himself breeds thoroughbreds on the same scale that his father fed dogs. He has 46 stallions all hard at work. His approach to drawings was like his approach to horses, nothing but the best. His runners carried the most famous names in art history and 26 of the drawings set new auction price records for the artists concerned. The collection made £14.7 million.

The Leonardo, a Canaletto at £493,103 - doubling the pre-sale estimate - a Delacroix at £379,310 and an Agostina Carracci at £250,344.

Other great collectors at the sale included Dr Armand Hammer and Mr Peter Sharp, of New York, the first owners of Occidental Petroleum and the latter New York's Carlisle Hotel. Hammer bought a Durrer and a Veronese which he is expected to be donating to the National Gallery in Washington. They cost him £303,448 each. Mr Sharp spent the same sum to acquire a beautiful "Virgin and Child" by Fra Bartolommeo.

● The collapse of the Wah Kwong shipping empire, built up by T Y Chao, of Hong Kong, brought his superb collection of Chinese ceramics and jades under Sotheby's hammer in Hong Kong yesterday and earned £7.7 million in a sitting, more than has ever previously been achieved by a sale of Chinese art.

Tories assess prison role for private sector

The Government is to examine the possibility of introducing some degree of privatization into the running of Britain's prisons. (Philip Webster writes).

The Earl of Cathness, Minister of State at the Home Office, who is responsible for prisons, is to visit the United States early in the new year to look at some of the 20 prisons which have introduced an element of private management.

News of the trip will please the Conservative members of the Commons home affairs committee, who themselves returned from a recent visit to the United States.

The minister is to appear before the committee today as part of its inquiry into the prison system in Britain.

Stocks: The Times averages
 Australia 207.78, Canada 25.00, New Zealand 10.00, USA 100.00, UK 100.00, France 100.00, Germany 100.00, Italy 100.00, Japan 100.00, Hong Kong 100.00, India 100.00, South Africa 100.00, Switzerland 100.00, Taiwan 100.00, Thailand 100.00, West Germany 100.00, Yugoslavia 100.00.

JP 11-150

Mrs Guinness says she does not hate the gang who kidnapped her

By Richard Ford

Mrs Jennifer Guinness told yesterday how she rehearsed her own death scene at the hands of the hooded gang that kidnapped her earlier this year.

She also said she did not hate the four men who held her for a £2 million ransom.

Throughout the eight-day ordeal the strong-willed wife of a merchant banker pitted her wits against the abductors in an attempt to stop them killing her.

Yesterday the fourth member of the gang was jailed for his part in the abduction. Afterward Mrs Guinness said she has no hatred for her kidnapers and is delighted that one of them named his daughter Jennifer at her suggestion.

"I am not a hater. I don't think the emotions of hate or vengeance are very constructive, but I don't actually like the people who treated me like that."

Describing her kidnapping as "traumatic", she admitted that £300,000 was to be dropped after negotiations had taken place with the full knowledge of the police. But Mrs Guinness said she did not agree with the payment of ransom as this encouraged other abductions.

Mrs Guinness, speaking at a press conference, said her only therapy to help her overcome the effects of the abduction was sailing, walking and listening to classical music.

Mrs Guinness was speaking after Brian McNicholl, aged 49, an unemployed demolition contractor from Dublin, was jailed for 12 years and nine months at the city's Circuit Criminal Court. He was found guilty of false imprisonment and possessing a firearm.

Described by police as a "mystery man", he had only become involved in the abduction at a late stage, but had then bragged about his role in organizing it. McNicholl had hoped to obtain half the ransom demand after promising to provide a safe house in which the rest of the gang could hide their victim.

Three other men, John and Michael Cunningham and Anthony Kelly are already serving prison sentences ranging from 14 to 17 years for their part in the kidnapping.



Mrs Jennifer Guinness, talked to her captors

New hope on cheaper air fares to Europe

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

Britain yesterday increased the pressure in the fight for cheaper air fares to Europe.

Air Europe, the charter airline belonging to Mr Harry Goodman, the holiday entrepreneur, applied for licences to set up a scheduled network to 11 main European cities from Gatwick.

British Caledonian applied for five new routes and promised fare reductions of up to 60 per cent over existing levels.

And Mr Michael Spicer, the Minister for Aviation, reaffirmed his determination to force other countries to agree to allow real competition on European air routes.

The most dramatic move came from Air Europe which plans to fly at least once a day to Paris, Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Geneva, Brussels, Munich, Dusseldorf, Zurich, Milan, Rome and Copenhagen.

Applications for the licences have already been filed with the Civil Aviation Authority which is almost certain to agree.

British Caledonian put in its application for an increase in routes immediately it heard of Air Europe's plans.

Both airlines are greatly encouraged by the determination of the Government to achieve greater freedom for competition. And they were boosted still further yesterday when Mr Spicer told a meeting in Brussels that he was not prepared to see the Government's proposals on liberalization watered down.



Miss Meryl Huxtable, a paper conservator from the Victoria and Albert Museum, restoring antique Chinese wallpaper at Saltram House, Plymouth, Devon (Photograph: Nick Rogers).

Portfolio Gold - A winner after only four days

Three readers share yesterday's Portfolio Gold prize of £4,000.

Miss Kathleen Kent, aged 53, a secretary at the British embassy in Bonn, has played the Portfolio Gold game for the past four days.

"I am astonished," she said. "I checked everything twice because I just could not believe my luck."

When asked how she intended spending the prize money, Miss Kent said: "I will spend some and invest some."

Mr Hartley Mavir, aged 61, a rent officer, from Workington in Cumbria, has played the Portfolio Gold game since it started.

"I was rather taken aback. Because I had not seen the name of a northerner among the winners before," he said. "But I am certainly very delighted."

Mr Mavir said that the winnings will go towards paying for his youngest daughter's wedding next year.

The other winner is Mr Lawrence Coombs, aged 32, a laboratory technician from Leytonstone in east London.

"I am very elated," Mr Coombs said. He will spend his prize money on renovations to the family home.

Readers who wish to play the game can obtain a Portfolio Gold card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold,
The Times,
PO Box 40,
Blackburn,
BB1 6AJ.

Worry over criminal funds

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A bank would be under a statutory duty to report to the police any suspicion that a customer's funds could be derived from a criminal offence under far-reaching proposals being discussed by the Home Office and the clearing banks.

The Drug Trafficking Offences Act has already placed such a duty on banks so far as the proceeds of drug trafficking are concerned.

But both banks and officials are rapidly realizing that it is very difficult for banks to know that drug trafficking is the offence involved when there is a suspicion about a customer's account.

Home Office officials are therefore studying closely the workings of the Act, with a view to extending the so-called "laundering" offence to all crimes. Such an extension could be included in the Criminal Justice Bill which has just been published.

Under the Drug Trafficking Act, a person commits an offence if he assists in the "laundering" of money derived from drug offences, while having a suspicion that the funds could be tainted.

A bank clerk is therefore guilty of an offence punishable by up to 14 years if he has such a suspicion, fails to report it and, for example, arranges for funds to be transferred.

The banks are strongly opposed to any further extension of the "laundering" offence. Yesterday a spokesman for one bank said: "It was highly dangerous to make it an offence not to report a mere suspicion under the Drug Trafficking Act and this should not be extended."

"Many perfectly honest people may be too nervous to act; young bank clerks may be afraid that they would turn out to be wrong. And if they don't act, they could find themselves liable to up to 14 years' imprisonment."

He added the offence was unusual in that unlike almost all others in English law it did not have to be committed with knowledge, but only with "suspicion".

Although the Drug Trafficking Act releases banks from their duty of confidence with the client so they cannot be sued for breach of confidence, they could still be sued, in the opinion of one official, for defamation if they make a mistake and report someone wrongly.

Lighter fuel goes to China

A Tyneside firm confirmed yesterday that it had won a £1 million order to export lighter fuel to China. The Ronson company at North Shields also disclosed that it has another £2 million order for China next year, and a £500,000 order to supply fuel to Portugal, Turkey and Australia.

The company employs 100 people at North Shields. Mr Brad Hallett, the manufacturing director, said: "More jobs will probably be created as a result of the order."

Drink-drive test case Back-counting alcohol level is legal

By Craig Seton

A judge yesterday closed a potential escape route for drunken drivers, by giving police the right to "back calculate" how much a motorist had been drinking, even if an alcohol test was avoided for many hours.

In a test case at Birmingham Crown Court, Judge Ross, QC, dismissed an appeal against conviction by Stephen Gumbley, aged 35, of Brixton, south-east London, who was found guilty of drink driving by Birmingham magistrates in June, in the first case of its kind in Britain.

Gumbley was convicted although he was below the legal limit when police finally obtained a blood sample four hours and 20 minutes after a road accident in which his brother, Gordon, died.

Gumbley was banned from driving for a year, fined £350 and ordered to pay £900 costs.

He appealed against conviction on a point of law, claiming that the Road Traffic Act 1972, as amended in 1981, did not permit the police to "back calculate". He received legal aid.

Police forces throughout the country were awaiting the outcome of Gumbley's case and several are now expected to prosecute motorists who were found to be "over the limit" on the back calculation method.

The court was told yesterday that after a late-night car crash in an underpass in Birmingham city centre in May last year, Gumbley, who had been drinking with his brother, twice refused a breath test because he felt unwell and was taken to hospital.

Four hours and 20 minutes elapsed after the accident before police could obtain a blood sample from Gumbley, but that contained only 59 milligrams of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood - well within the legal limit of 80 milligrams.

But police officers did not believe Gumbley's claim to have drunk only one pint of lager. They asked Dr Robert Batten, a forensic scientist, to calculate what the level in his blood would have been at the time of the accident.

Expert evidence given in court was that alcohol left the bloodstream at the rate of 15 milligrams an hour in a normal healthy adult.

Mr Roger Smith, for West Midlands police, said that meant Gumbley would have "eliminated" 60 milligrams over the four-hour period. Added to the 59 milligrams found in the sample, his blood would have contained 119 milligrams at the time of the accident.

The judge said that the sole issue in the appeal was whether as a matter of law the police were allowed to introduce such expert evidence in the case under the provisions of the Road Traffic Act.

He said that section 6 of the amended Act stated that a person who drove... "after consuming so much alcohol" that the prescribed limit was exceeded would be guilty of an offence.

It made no reference to the way in which that was to be established in evidence and did not exclude other ways of

proving how much alcohol was involved.

The judge said that whatever restrictions were placed on the prosecution in such cases by the 1972 Act, its amended form "had opened the door".

He ruled that the police, therefore, had been entitled to call such expert evidence.

After the hearing Gumbley refused to comment but his legal advisers said that they would appeal to the Divisional Court in London.

Insp Kenneth Longmore, of the Birmingham police central traffic unit, said the case would never have arisen in such a unique way but for Gumbley's refusal to take a breath test for such a long period.

Insp Longmore said that he had waited for two hours at Birmingham General Hospital to take a test from Gumbley.

The Automobile Association said last night that the rejection of Gumbley's appeal opened up new areas of concern which required study.

A spokesman said that in certain cases it might be necessary for the police to use the back calculation method, such as after accidents where people were injured and samples could not be taken immediately, but in those cases the driver should be under medical supervision.

Poll shows high cost of sickness

By Jill Sherman

Financial organizations are paying out millions of pounds on health care insurance and sickness absence but are doing little to help employees become healthier.

An opinion poll carried out by MORI and commissioned by BUPA, the private health insurance company, shows that 96 per cent of 112 financial organizations interviewed provided some kind of medical insurance scheme. But only a quarter provided any health education at work and over a third had no information on the cost of sickness absence to their business.

Figures from the Department of Health and Social Security show that more than 360 million days are lost each year through sickness absence. MORI found that in those companies that could provide estimates, the cost of this absence ranged from 3-10 per cent of the wages bill.

The poll found that although 80 per cent of the companies recognized that there were health problems which should be faced, 41 per cent had no idea what they should be spending to maintain a healthy workforce.

The MORI poll result was announced at a BUPA symposium on the cost benefits of health care. Mr Leon Warshaw, executive director of the New York Business Group on Health, told the symposium that soaring premiums in the United States have priced many smaller companies out of the market.

He said that American employers are now trying to reverse these rising costs by introducing modified insurance plans and asking the employees to share costs.

New hunt for moors bodies

By Ian Smith
Northern Correspondent

Police will begin a new search tomorrow for two children believed buried for 20 years on the desolate Yorkshire moors made infamous by Ian Brady and Myra Hindley.

The search results from two visits by the head of Manchester CID to Hindley in prison.

Four dogs specially trained to detect bodies will be taken to Saddleworth Moors, 10 miles north-east of Manchester to search the bleak moorland for the bodies of Pauline Reade, aged 16, who went missing on July 12, 1963, and Keith Bennett, a schoolboy who vanished while walking to his grandmother's home in a Manchester suburb on June 16, 1964, four days after his twelfth birthday.

The hunt follows an intensive 18-month re-examination of the two cases by senior detectives from Greater Manchester which culminated in the two visits made by Det Chief Supt Peter Topping, the joint head of CID, to Cookham Wood Jail in Rochester, Kent, where Hindley is serving a life sentence.

Immediately he left Hindley's cell on Monday, Mr Topping conferred with senior colleagues by telephone and it was agreed enough new facts now existed to warrant a further search of the moors.

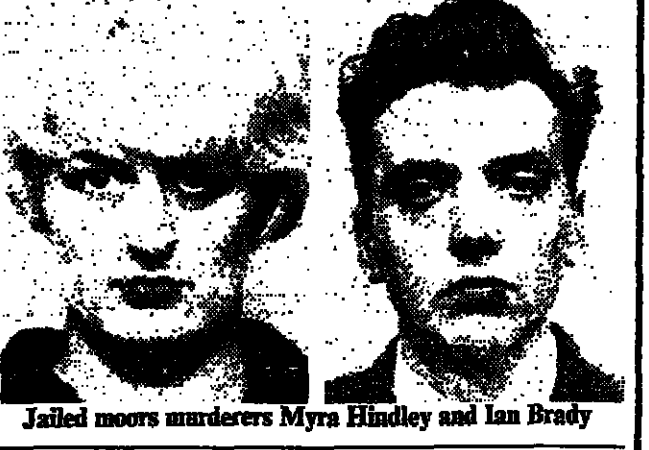
After the CID head made a second visit to the prison yesterday, he said: "I can confirm a search of the moors will start on Thursday."

"We have in mind a particular part of the moors on which we will concentrate using police dogs. But we estimate that the search may take several weeks and obviously cannot say with any certainty whether it will be productive."

During their many years in jail, both Hindley and Brady have scorned repeated attempts by police to persuade them to disclose whether more bodies are buried on the moors and if so where.

But it is understood Hindley has now gone some way to confirming detectives' suspicions of where the missing children lie. Just before police arrived to tell Keith Bennett's mother, Mrs Winifred Johnson, about the search, her husband was taken to hospital from their Manchester home with a suspected heart attack. Last night, Mrs Johnson said: "My husband is seriously ill and I can only hope and pray that the new search will help him fight his battle for life."

"All I have ever wanted is for Keith to be buried in a proper grave which I can visit and place flowers on."



Jailed moors murderers Myra Hindley and Ian Brady

Maxwell 'vindictive man' QC says

Mr Robert Maxwell, the newspaper publisher, was a "ruthless, vindictive man with a vast ego", a High Court libel jury was told yesterday.

Mr Andrew Bateson, QC, said Mr Maxwell did not like being pricked by a satirical magazine, he "hated" Private Eye and it was his intention to get a verdict that would "swat like a fly" its former editor.

The comment came during the twelfth day of the libel action brought by Mr Maxwell against Private Eye and Mr Richard Ingrams, its former editor. Mr Bateson, for the defendants, said there was nothing wrong in somebody making payments to a political party, or having an ambition to be a peer and to say either was not libellous.

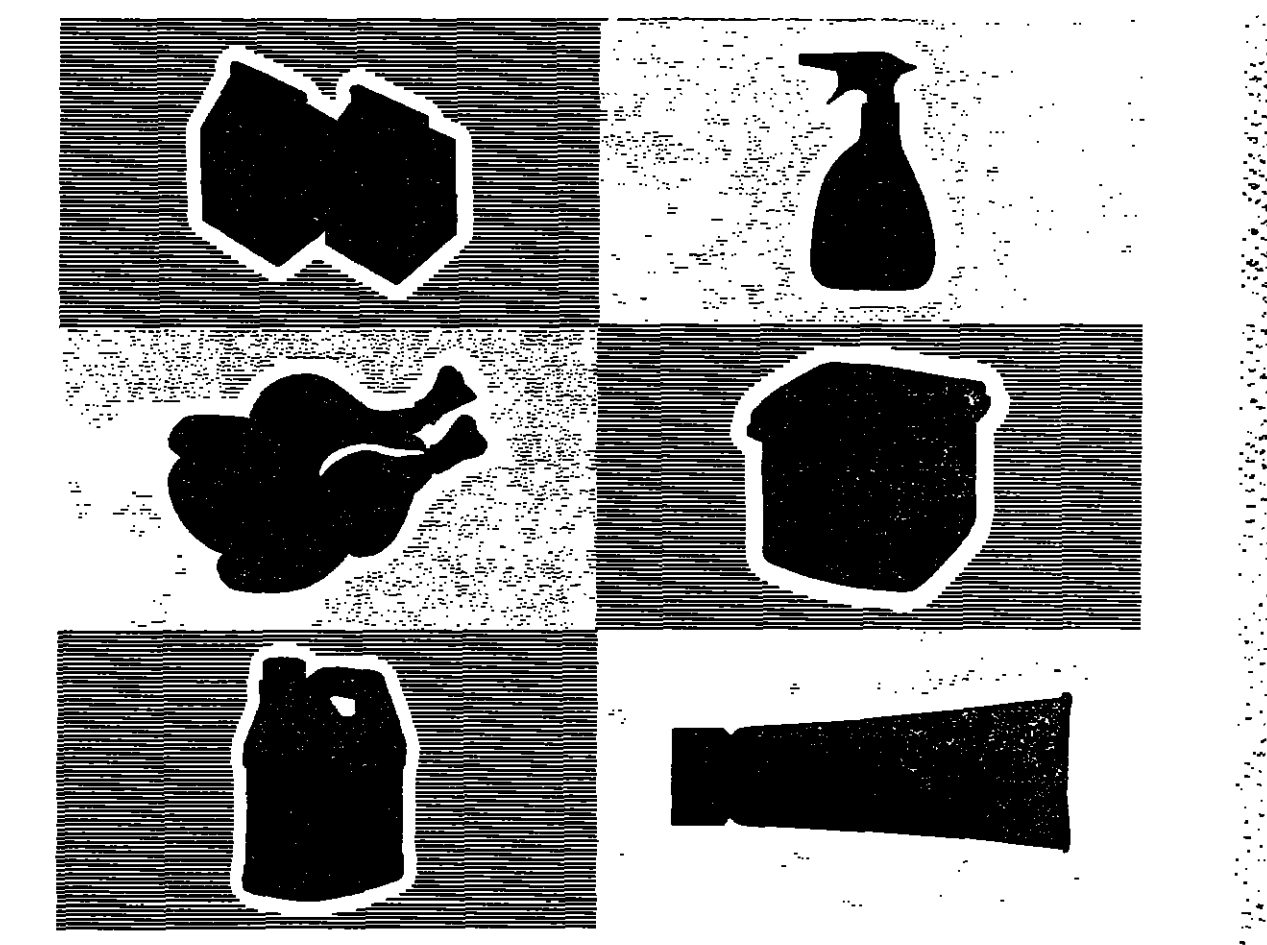
Mr Bateson, who was making his final speech to Mr Justice Brown and a jury, submitted that Mr Maxwell should not be awarded damages for his "white knight errantry" in bringing a libel action for the protection of his political system and its integrity.

Mr Maxwell, aged 63, chairman of Mirror Group Newspapers, is suing Private Eye over two articles in July 1985. He claims they implied that he was guilty of attempted bribery by suggesting that he paid for trips abroad for Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labour Party, in the hope of being recommended for a peerage.

The magazine and former editor deny defamation.

The hearing continues.

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November 18 1986

PARLIAMENT

The Speaker rules against Thatcher on Wright case

The Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill, ruled against the Prime Minister's case today in a ruling on the Wright case in the House of Commons.

PRIME MINISTER

Mr Speaker: It is easily seen that her comment has not satisfied us. That places you in an invidious position, Mr Speaker, as your judgement was so clear. I suggest that further reflection is given to this case as the alternative is distraction of the House.

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The Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill: A considered response on a difficult issue

Prime Minister accused of sycophancy to US

The Prime Minister was accused by Mr Kinnoch of sycophancy in her relations with President Reagan after Mrs Thatcher made a statement on her recent visit to the United States.

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Prime Minister express support for President Reagan's repeatedly stated objective of abolishing all strategic ballistic missiles within 10 years or not.

Mr Geoffrey Lofthouse, whose question began the exchanges.

Mr John Biffen, Leader of the House of Commons, rose instead and asked the Speaker: In making your judgement on this matter, would you kindly take account of the fact that the United Kingdom is a party to the case in the Australian courts?

Mr Speaker: I prepare myself carefully every day for question time and I look forward to the day when you will ask me a question.

Mr Speaker: I think the Prime Minister has made her position very clear.

Mr Ian Gow (Eastbourne, C): I think it would be of assistance to the House if you could please explain how it is that a matter which is before one of her Majesty's judges in Australia and in a case to which her Majesty's Government is a party...

Mr Speaker: I calculated that this might arise and therefore I was prepared with the answer that I gave.

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Career prospects in tourism 'good'

Mr Anthony Steen (South Farnham, C) said that last summer the tourism industry had been going begging in his constituency of South Devon because young people and those on the employment register just would not take them. Many of these jobs were being taken by people coming in from European countries instead. Could something be done about this by next summer?

Mr Speaker: One of our difficulties in the tourism sector is that we still have difficulty with our young people who, perhaps, from time to time, get a bit mixed up between service and work.

The Opposition did not help matters by "rubbishing" those jobs in tourism occupied by young people. He was surprised that local jobs were being taken by people coming in from European countries instead.

The Government was trying to correct that and he had recently launched a video campaign, going into 7,000 schools, to try to correct that impression.

The Government had made a total increase in public spending provision next year of £4.7 billion. Within that total, provision for local government spending was £1.4 billion.

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Ridley onslaught on extremists Some Labour councils 'just like Eastern bloc'

The following is a summary of yesterday's resumed debate on the Queen's Speech.

Some Labour councils in Britain were likened to the regimes of East Europe by a Government minister. People living in fear under these "totalitarian" councils, the fear of the knock on the door in the night, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, said.

Resuming the debate, Mr Ridley said that there was ample scope for better public services within the public spending provision made by the Government if local authorities improved efficiency.

Local government was now a big spender. This year it accounted for £38 billion, or more than 25 per cent of all public spending. It employed 24 million people, or about one in ten of the workforce.

The scale of spending and the politicization of its attitudes have made it a subject which comes too often before this House for consideration.

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Labour rattled and dispirited, says minister

The Opposition was becoming increasingly rattled, depressed and dispirited with the changes in the unemployment figures and with the national opinion polls moving against them, Mr John Lee, Secretary of State for Employment, said during Commons questions when he faced criticism over changes in the way the figures were drawn up.

He said that in April 1979 the number of registered unemployed who had been unemployed for more than a year and more than two years respectively were 366,700 and 179,800. In October this year, the number of unemployed claimants were 1,341,000 and 844,500.

Direct comparisons of unemployment by duration since 1979 were not possible because of changes in the way the figures were collected.

Mr James Dornan (Eastington, Lab) said these figures are a disgrace and an affront to our society. They demonstrate more clearly than anything else why this Government's economic policies are an utter failure.

When will the Government realize what a devastating effect long-term unemployment has on the family?

Mr Lee: We are slowly winning the unemployment battle. Numbers are starting to fall. There had been a drop of 7,000 in the latest quarter for the long-term unemployed as compared with a rise of 25,000 a year ago.

What will not help employment is the sort of suggestion made recently by Mr John Prescott (chief Opposition spokesman on employment), Mr One For One, with his famous training levy. Nothing would make matters worse.

Dame Jill Knight (Birmingham, Edgbaston, C) said that unless the job vacancy numbers were levelled with the unemployment numbers a true picture could not be obtained.

Mr Lee agreed. In most areas vacancies were increasing and last week's figures showed that vacancies were at the highest level since 1979.

Mr Edward Leadbitter (Hartlepool, Lab) said the minister had talked about the difficulties of making comparisons with 1979 because of the different methods of calculating unemployment.

The Government knew very well the basis of the changes in calculating the figures. With reasonable methods of comparison it would be possible for the Government to put into the Official Report what that figure would be, taking into account the changes made by the Government.

Mr Lee said the allegations that there had been 16 changes was misleading and exaggerated. Only six had had a discernible effect, and details had been put into the Employment Gazette.

Mr Michael Fallon (Darrington, C) said unemployment in the North-east fell by 9 per cent last week. "Labour should recognize the good things, or do they prefer high unemployment?"

Miss Jo Richardson, Opposition spokesman on women's employment, asked for confirmation of an idea at a by-election meeting when it involved such a huge increase in employers' costs. Like other Labour plans, such as a minimum wage, this plan would cost jobs.

EMPLOYMENT

from the figures of those available for work. Mr Lee said he had not got the figures for women. But during the last Labour Government 600,000 jobs in manufacturing had been lost.

Since the introduction of the availability for work test in pilot areas, the number of people being referred for suspension of unemployment benefit had multiplied by 20. Levels were 366,700 and 179,800. In October this year, the number of unemployed claimants were 1,341,000 and 844,500.

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Parliament today Conclusion of debate on the Queen's Speech (the economy). Lords (2.15): Conclusion of debate on the Queen's Speech (economic affairs and employment).

JPM 1150

Army denies excessive training as heat stroke kills sapper in mud run

The Army yesterday denied that it had used excessive training methods after a verdict of accidental death was returned on a soldier who died after taking part in an aptitude test to become a diver. The inquest was told he had run across mud in "sweltering" heat in a deep-sea diving suit.

Vincent Anderson, aged 19, of Southlands, Bath, a sapper in the Royal Engineers, was on the course at Horsa Island, Portsmouth, last July, when he and two others had to be taken to hospital.

Mr John Glanville, the Portsmouth coroner, said that candidates on the course were required to exercise in a dry suit used in deep diving. The suit had no apertures and no air circulating inside. They had suffered a great deal of distress.

Mr Martin Allwright, a meteorologist, said the day of the exercise, July 15, was the warmest day of the month, with temperatures rising to the mid-70s and relatively high humidity.

He described it as "siesta weather" and he agreed with a relative of the dead man, who was sitting in the court and who called out that it was "sweltering".

The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. It had been told by Surgeon Commander John Buchanan, a pathologist, that the sapper had suffered heat stroke. He said it was possible that if he had received instant medical attention he might have been saved.

He said dry suits prevented the body's normal cooling process from taking place and added: "Exercise in a dry suit should not be conducted outside of the working environment, which is water."

Servicemen had to be trained he added, to the limits for wartime service, "but you have to be well aware of the limit to which you train them and should provide medical aid on site if you are pushing them towards those limits".

After the hearing, Mr Victor Anderson, aged 45, Sapper Anderson's father, said he was considering consulting a lawyer. He claimed his son had been working late at night, serving in the officers' mess, before joining the course.

The Army yesterday denied that its training routines were excessively physical. "The old days of fierce physical exercises and punishments have long been eradicated from

today's modern Army," the Ministry of Defence said.

"It has to be remembered that this run was a normal part of the routine.

"There are 152,000 soldiers in the Army, all of whom have passed a medical examination. It is not surprising that there might be someone with a problem that has not shown up. It is not unheard of for an apparently perfectly fit civilian of 32 who plays squash one or two times a week, to drop dead with heart failure.

Mr Peter Griffiths, the Conservative MP for Portsmouth North, whose constituency covers Horsa Island, said: "There should be much greater supervision in this type of exercise.

"I would want to see a senior medical officer present, who could have the authority to call off such a test if the conditions warranted it, and an ambulance on stand-by with resuscitation equipment".

He pointed out that the run in which Sapper Anderson died was a contest. "They were all highly motivated to complete the exercise and unlike most civilians would not give up if things got too tough."

Radio 4 will be 'gently' refreshed

By Gavin Bell Arts Correspondent

There will be no radical changes to disturb the cosy familiarity and companionship offered by BBC Radio 4 to its largely middle-aged audience in the south of England.

This reassuring pledge was given yesterday by Mr Michael Green, who was appointed controller of the channel last summer.

"The essence of my policy is to evolve slowly, gradually refreshing some parts of the channel with a few surprises and experiments. The idea of radical change is simply not on for Radio 4."

Mr Green said he felt that the news and current affairs content was about right, but would like to extend the range of drama and light entertainment to attract new listeners, particularly in the younger age groups.

Contrary to a report in a Sunday newspaper, there are no immediate plans to launch a twice-weekly soap opera to rival *The Archers*. However his executives were discussing the possibility of commissioning more serials.

"Without compromising our commitment to single plays and new writers, I have asked them to explore ways of developing our drama. But it is still early days yet."

Mr Green was keen to introduce a little more music, principally in feature programmes, and this was also under discussion.

Highlights of his Christmas and new year schedule include the return of the early morning news magazine, *Today*, after an absence of almost 10 years.

A chance discovery by a BBC archivist will provide a Christmas treat for *Goon Show* addicts - five programmes from the 1950s that were heard abroad, but not in Britain. Spike Milligan also returns to present his first radio series for 15 years.

A cerebral clash between the winners and runners-up of Radio 4's *Brain of Britain* and BBC-1's *Mastermind* is billed for New Year's Day.

The drama line-up is led by a series of nine classic British detective plays. Features include the Archbishop of Canterbury selecting his favourite poetry and prose for the *17th Great Pleasure* series on December 20.



Mr Peter Gibson working on a replacement for the Rose Window at York Minster, which suffered substantial damage during a fire more than two years ago.

Save Our Snakes campaign launched

Conservationists launched a campaign yesterday to save Britain's reptiles and amphibians, which they claim are being tortured and killed in alarming numbers.

A report produced by the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society, with funding from the RSPCA and Nature Conservancy, found "numerous examples of needless mutilation and destruction of snakes, frogs and toads".

The campaign, called "Save Our Snakes" is really an SOS for all wildlife not protected by animal welfare legislation, Mr Paul Vodden, of the RSPCA, said.

Most cruelty offenders are prosecuted under the 1911 Protection of Animals Act, but this covers only captive and domestic animals. The Wildlife and Countryside Act offers no protection either for the common species of reptiles and amphibians at risk.

A man aged 32, who suffered from mental illness after being bitten by a poisonous snake when he was eight, died after jumping in front of an express train at Wimbledon in October.

The jury at a Westminster inquest returned a verdict that David McGuirk, a machine minder, of Devonshire Avenue, Sheerwater, Surrey, killed himself while the balance of his mind was disturbed.

Clergymen told there are too many churches

Britain's 45,000 church buildings are "far beyond" the needs and finances of today's congregations and numbers should be reduced by long-term national and local planning.

This is the conclusion of a report by the British Council of Churches, which will be debated at the council's autumn assembly in London next week.

Clergymen are urged to face the "harsh realities" that many Victorian churches and chapels were built to last no more than 100 years.

The report quotes a leading architect: "You can understand the dilemma which faces us all in Britain, with approximately 45,000 fine buildings - some the very finest, even by international standards - and perhaps only 25 per cent of them required for their original purpose."

"Into the bargain, it is sadly the case that the right church is often in the wrong place."

The report says population movements from the inner city to distant housing estates has left many church buildings stranded in busy commercial centres or run-down areas.

Half of the money raised by Anglican parishes in England every year is said to be spent on maintenance and repairs.

The report said: "Because of the growing gap between the deterioration of buildings and the means available to the churches, it will not be possible for any church in Britain to preserve all the buildings presently owned by the church or its congregations."

The conclusion is that some churchgoers will have to be prepared to worship with other congregations - sometimes even in churches of a different denomination.

Test-tube babies join protest

Twenty test-tube babies and their parents gathered at the Commons yesterday to protest at the possibility of a Bill to stop the kind of experiments which made test-tube births possible.

For the past two years, private members' Bills to curb research on human embryos have been discussed by MPs, but they failed through lack of time. The ballot to select this year's private members' Bills takes place tomorrow.

Mr Allan Maddocks, from Merseyside, father of test-tube baby Samantha, aged five months, said: "Without this research going on we would be childless."

Mr Kenneth Hargreaves, Conservative MP for Hyndburn, who put forward last year's Bill, met the parents

Test-tube babies join protest

half met those obligations in full.

"Very real distress" was being caused to middle-income parents, the AMA claimed. It argued that all students over 18 should be regarded as independent from their parents and eligible for full grants.

The three submissions called for increased government funding, but made clear their opposition to student loans. In spite of their "specious attraction" as a tailor-made financial package, they would have "serious educational disadvantages" and would be more expensive to administer than the present system refined and simplified, the AMA said.

Protest over student grants

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

College lecturers and local authorities combined yesterday to deplore the "shrivelling" of student grants since 1979 which they claimed was causing severe hardship among those seeking higher education.

In three remarkably corroborative submissions to the education select committee, the Association of County Councils (ACC), the Association of Metropolitan Authorities (AMA) and the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education all claimed that the value of the student grant had fallen by at least 20 per cent in real terms since 1979.

But they also argued that this reduction had been exacerbated by other factors and was "in reality far more severe".

Two unavoidable areas of student expenditure - books and accommodation - had risen by considerably more than the rate of inflation in that period, while the "broad brush" approach of the grants system failed to take sufficient account of particular needs and regional anomalies such as extortionate housing rents in London.

And they argued that the system of parental contributions should be abolished. Parents found it "irrational and unfair". According to the ACC the number of parents expected to pay contributions has risen from 25 to 44 per cent since 1980, but barely

Shark on roof must go

Oxford City Council has given Mr William Heine six weeks to remove an internationally famous sculpture of a shark from the roof of his terrace house in New High Street, Oxford.

Mr Heine presented a 3,111-name petition in support of the 20th sculpture by John Buckley, but councillors decided he should not be allowed to ignore planning regulations.

The convey was en route from the Greenham Common base to Salisbury Plain in Wiltshire for a training exercise.

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY

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LUTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY

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SIMBEC RESEARCH LTD.

We're proud to announce the first two national winners of our Beta Award for energy efficiency in private and public sector buildings.

To the new terminal at Luton International Airport goes the Beta Award for buildings over 1,000 square metres. This terminal's air conditioning, which incorporates heat retrieval systems, has energy running costs which are 34% cheaper, on a volume basis, than for the previous building.

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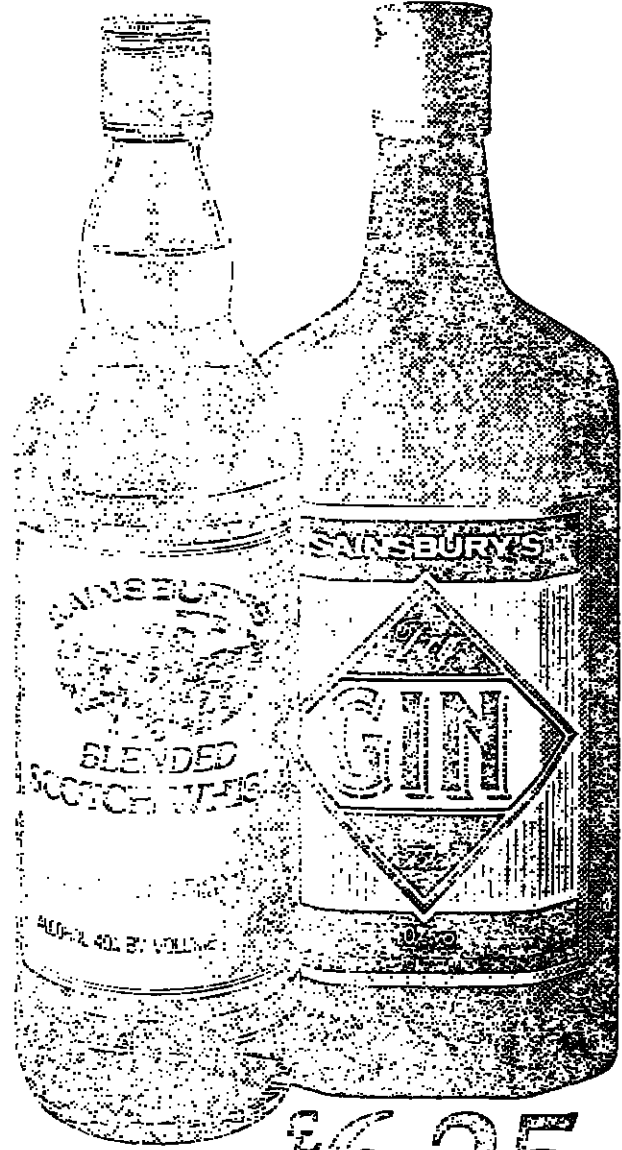
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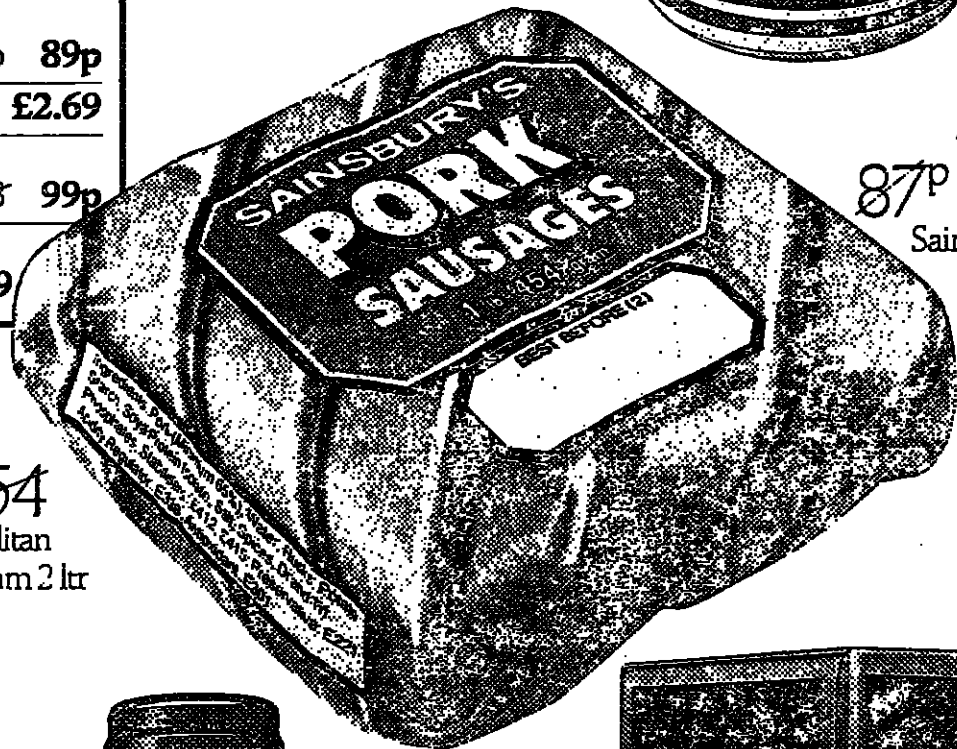


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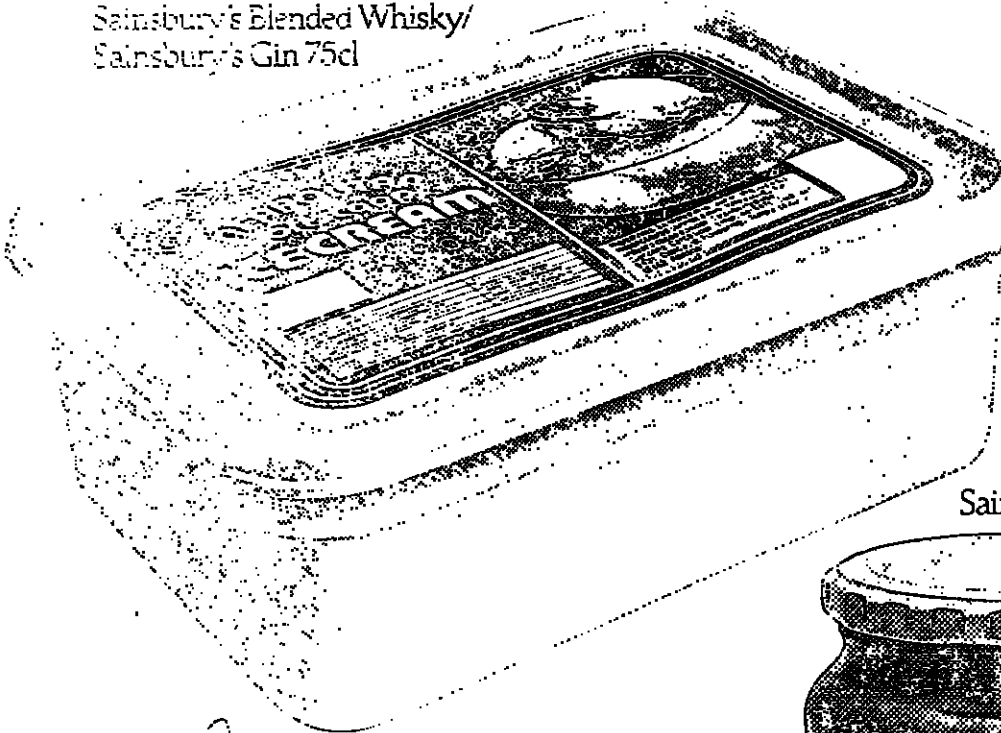
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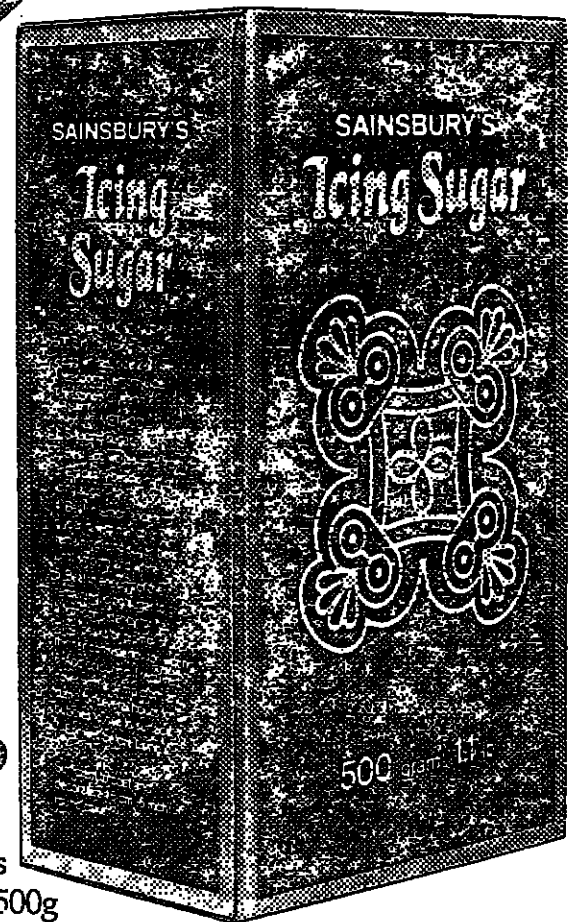
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IBA meets next week to choose satellite TV franchise holder

By Kenneth Gosling

Eleven people will sit down in an office in Brompton Road opposite Harrods in central London next Monday to begin a process that will lead in a little over three years to the introduction of a three-channel satellite television service.

Ten of the group - seven men and three women - are the members of the Independent Broadcasting Authority who next week will examine closely the claims of five consortia to operate a complete direct-broadcast satellite service for which the franchise is expected to be awarded before Christmas.

The eleventh is Mr John Whitney, the IBA's director general.

At the head of the IBA team will be Lord Thomson of Monifieth, the authority's chairman. The authority normally is made up of 12 people, including the chairman, but is short of a deputy chairman and one member.

One of the bidding groups has predicted that within six years of its launch almost a third of homes in Britain with television will own a dish antenna to pick up satellite broadcasts. The award of the 15-year franchise could lead to the creation of 70,000 new jobs.

All the applications had to be in by last August and since



Mr John Whitney, director general of the IBA

then staff of the authority has carried out a line-by-line scrutiny, ironing out queries so that the full authority will be primed on the sort of questions to ask next week. Technical officers will be standing by to offer advice.

The vetting will be thorough: if any group fails to satisfy the IBA members it could be called back for a further interview. Initially each consortium will be given half an hour to make its presentation which will be followed by a question-and-answer session.

Of the five main consortia, industry sources fancy two principal contenders: DBS

UK Ltd, financed by advertising, and BSB (British Satellite Broadcasting), which will be subscription-based. The other three are DBL (Direct Broadcasting Ltd), NBS (National Broadcasting Service) and SatUK Broadcasting.

Many household names figure in the groups - DBS UK Ltd has London Weekend Television International, Saatchi & Saatchi and Dixons among its partners; BSB has Granada, Anglia TV, Amstrad and Virgin; DBL includes Ferranti, News International and Cambridge Electronic Industries.

As well as the "big five", Independent Television News has submitted plans for a 24-hour news service and Starscream, also known as the Children's Channel, hopes to have its programming included on the successful system.

Although under international agreements the UK has two more satellite channels, the Government does not propose to allocate them until the new service has been running for at least three years.

DBS services are not required under the Cable and Broadcasting Act 1984 to have wide range and balance in subject matter and sufficient time for news.



Princess Anne inspecting the guard of honour provided by HMS Neptune when she visited the Royal Navy's Faslane submarine base on the Clyde, as Chief Commandant of the Women's Royal Navy Service. During her visit the Princess, who arrived by boat, opened an accommodation block for Wrens and watched a submarine attack on an electronic simulator.

Heseltine seeks more inner city help

Mr Michael Heseltine, who as a minister was put in charge of rebuilding the inner cities after the 1981 riots, called yesterday for the establishment of an English development agency to bring new life to the inner cities.

He told a conference in London on inner city renewal that the "desolation" of areas in the heart of English cities was too big a problem for local councils to tackle alone.

"It's a question of scale," he said. "Nothing is going to happen unless it is led by the

Government: the responsibility lies there. But although set up by the Government, the new agency, modelled on similar bodies for Scotland and Wales, should be led by an industrialist and businessmen from private industries.

"It is only in the private sector that you get the speed of decision-making we need. It has an edge to it which, if properly regulated and balanced, is to be admired."

Mr Heseltine, who resigned as Secretary of State for Defence over the Westland affair,

said: "I would want to set up a body of people to whom would be transferred much of the urban policy administration of local government.

"I would like to see a partnership of the various aspects of our society who have to cope with the issue.

"It would include representatives of the public and voluntary sectors. But it should be led by people from the private sector because they have that decision-making ability at speed."

London Docklands Development Corporation which he founded while in office as having "set alight an area which had mouldered for decades".

He added: "We have got to create a balanced, entrepreneurial society that is capable of supporting itself."

The idea that the problems of inner cities could be solved by encouraging residents to set up their own businesses was "fatally flawed". Once they became successful they would move out, leaving areas even more deprived.

Director 'flooded' company's rifle range

A secret camera allegedly caught a managing director pouring buckets of water on to his company's new rifle range in order to win thousands of pounds in compensation by claiming it was prone to flooding. A court was told yesterday.

Mr Rodney Wyles, aged 61, of Southwell, Nottinghamshire, denies two charges of deception and one of attempted deception.

Mr Brian Appleby, QC, for the prosecution, said Mr Wyles had been paid £11,600 by the construction company, Arrowcraft (Dominion) Investments, before it became suspicious and installed the secret remote control camera.

"He was dramatically caught in the act putting water on the range," Mr Appleby told Lincoln Crown Court.

Hundreds of photographs were taken when Mr Wyles, the major shareholder of C Smiths (Gunsmiths) of St Marks, Newark, Nottinghamshire, walked on to the underground testing range late at night. Several, showing him throwing buckets of water about, were viewed by the jury.

The jury was told Mr Wyles admitted throwing buckets of water on to the range, but said he was merely "swilling down" lead shot.

The case continues.

Students advised on heckling

Students at University College, Cardiff, were yesterday issued with guidelines on how to heckle political speakers.

They were issued as disciplinary action was dropped against 10 left-wing students who shouted down Mr Enoch Powell, the Ulster Unionist MP for South Down.

The students faced action after their chanting forced Mr Powell to abandon a speech he was due to give to Conservative students at the college in October.

The college said it had considered taking the action only to safeguard freedom of speech.

Guidelines have now been issued jointly by the university's students' union and the college authorities.

But Dr Alfred Moritz, registrar, emphasized that if a speaker is stopped from speaking again then disciplinary action would be taken.

"The college views the maintenance of freedom of speech within the law as of paramount importance," he said.

The guidelines for the conduct of political meetings say that college authorities should formally notify the union about the visit of a controversial speaker. The union can then advise whether it believes that the meeting should be cancelled.

If the speaker is allowed to come, then demonstrators can enter the meeting in an orderly way under union supervision.

The joint statement says heckling, and then chanting is allowed to take place if racist or sexist comments are made from the platform.

Girl threw baby boy at wall

A baby died after a girl aged five threw him against a hotel bedroom wall, an inquest was told yesterday.

Osbourne, aged three weeks had been left in his cot in a bedroom at a hotel in St Leonards, East Sussex, while his unemployed parents cooked a meal in the basement last July.

The baby's mother, Mrs Lynette Osbourne, told the inquest, at St Pancras, London, that she returned to the first floor bedroom and found two small girls there.

"I asked them what they were doing and one of them said that the other one had hurt the baby. I picked him up and his face was all grazed."

The baby was taken to a local hospital and later transferred to the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London. He died 35 minutes after being admitted.

WPC Deborah Willoughby told the inquest that one of the girls, aged six, said her five-year-old friend dropped the baby on to the floor.

"She put it back in the pram and rocked it hard again. Then she got it out and this time she threw it against a wall," WPC Willoughby also read extracts from an interview with the five-year-old.

"I said: 'How many times was the baby dropped?' She replied: 'Five or six.'"

A post-mortem examination showed the cause of death was a haemorrhage with a fractured skull.

Mr Chambers, recording an open verdict, said he had thought long and hard about the case but considered that a verdict of unlawful killing would be improper.

Gleneagles lands the supreme AA accolade

Gleneagles Hotel in Perthshire yesterday became the only Automobile Association Five Star hotel outside London.

The accolade, contained in the AA Hotel and Restaurant Guide, published yesterday, puts Gleneagles in the same category as the Berkeley, Claridges, the Connaught, Dorchester and the Savoy.

Mr Edward Murphy, AA director for Scotland, said yesterday: "Not only is this a particularly significant award for the hotel industry, but also for the Scottish tourist trade. I am glad to say that although the name Gleneagles is still synonymous with all that is best in Britain, the hotel has

succeeded in opening its doors to a wider clientele, while at the same time improving its standards."

During the past five years £9 million has been spent on restoring the hotel and on an indoor sport and leisure complex. Earlier this year plans were announced for a £3 million equestrian centre opening in 1988 and to be managed by Captain Mark Phillips.

Mr Brian Baldock, chairman of Gleneagles Hotels, said: "This is a momentous day in the hotel's 62-year history and it justifies all the hard work and investment that has gone into this elegant building over the past few years."

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Bellringer's £1,120 after losing job

A woman who refused to work on Sundays because she is a bellringer has been awarded £1,120 compensation for unfair dismissal.

Mrs Stephanie Lindhorst-Jones, aged 19, of Deva Close, Oakenholt, Clwyd, North Wales, told an industrial tribunal at Colwyn Bay last month she had been a bellringer for 11 years and described it as a commitment rather than a hobby.

The tribunal, in a reserved decision announced yesterday, ruled that she was dismissed unfairly from her job as clerical assistant with Aber Building Supplies, of Flint.

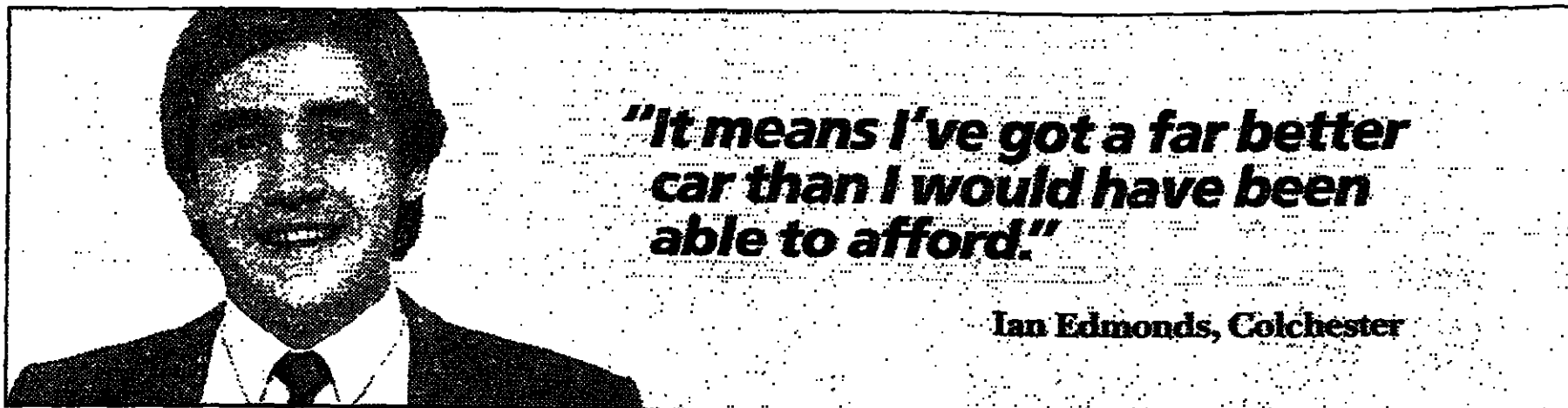
She was dismissed by Mr David Hopkins, the managing director, "in a fit of pique, because she had not agreed to work on Sunday."

Gallium Arsenide: the latest.

The next generation of integrated circuits will be made from gallium arsenide, a material, the experts say, that could be as important in the next decade as silicon was in the last. Chips made from gallium arsenide (GaAs) will work faster than silicon chips, will work at much higher temperatures and will have optical qualities applicable in laser technology.

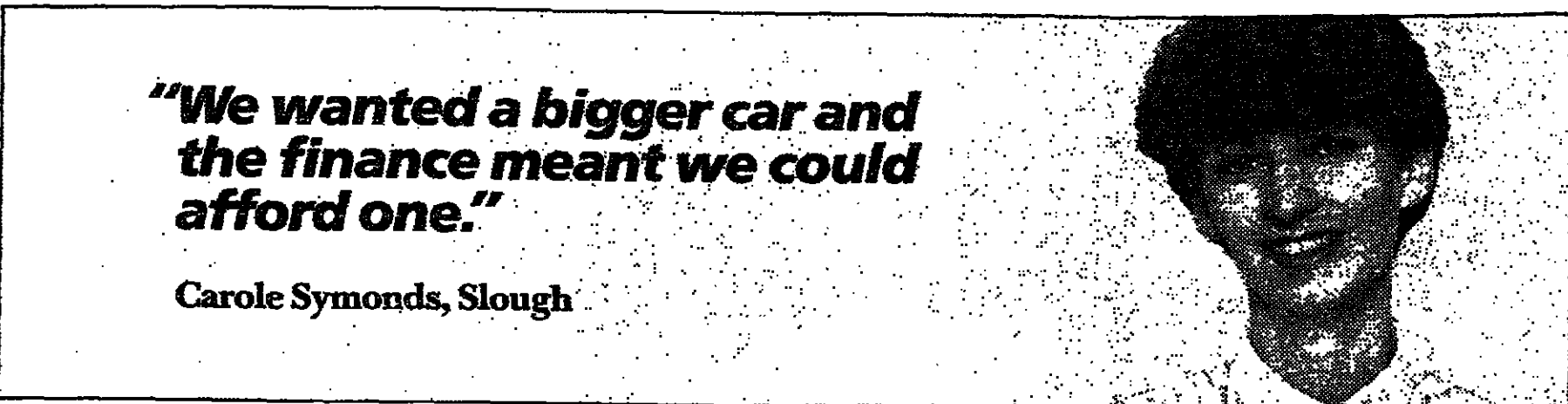
Their potential is enormous. The first University-based Research Centre covering both the material and device properties of GaAs has been formed by a combination of the resources of University College, Cardiff and the University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology. If your company wants to be in the right place at the right time, please dial 100 and ask for Freefone Wales, or send off the coupon.

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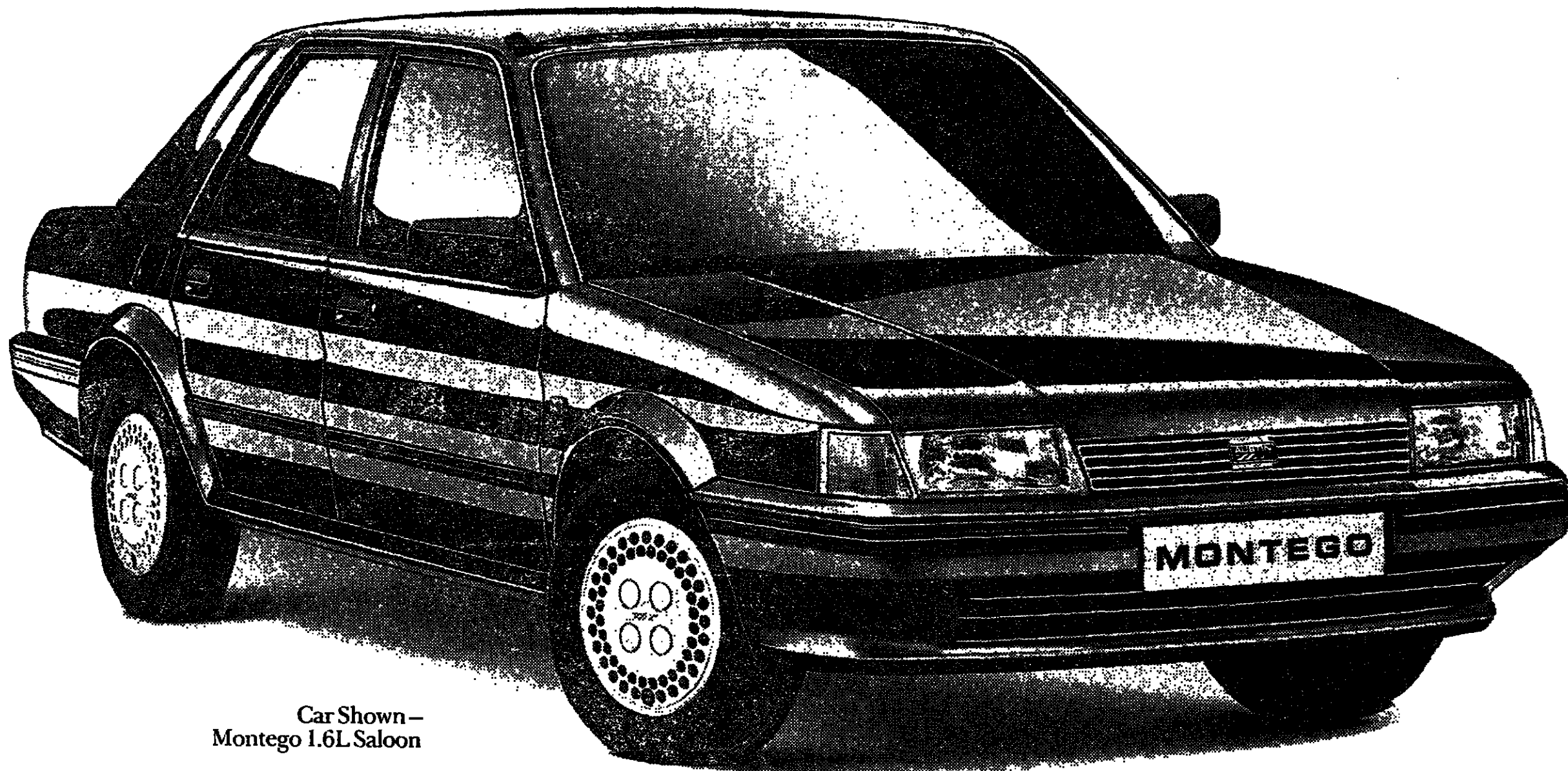
Ian Edmonds, Colchester



"We wanted a bigger car and the finance meant we could afford one."

Carole Symonds, Slough

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Monthly Payments	£ 273.43	£ 305.48	£ 370.47	£ 413.90
Charge for Credit	£ 332.85	£1,322.05	£ 748.94	£ 1,791.25
Total Amount Payable	£8,064.69	£8,833.89	£10,926.87	£11,969.19
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WORLD SUMMARY

Reagan heads off Shultz resignation

Washington — An order by President Reagan to end arms shipments to Iran appears to have forestalled the immediate resignation of Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, although his days in the Administration may still be numbered (Christopher Thomas writes).

Although their policy differences have been papered over, some aides believe that Mr Shultz has already decided to resign because he sees no prospect of advance on the issues of international terrorism and arms control, both of which have been underpinned by recent events.

LOS ANGELES: Only 14 per cent of those questioned believed President Reagan's statement about swapping weapons for hostages, but 58 per cent of Americans still approved of him, according to a new Los Angeles Times nationwide poll (Ivor Davis writes).

Jerusalem protest

Jerusalem — Shopkeepers in the Old City of Jerusalem held a strike yesterday in protest at the anti-Arab violence which has erupted every night since the murder of a Jewish Bible student on Saturday (Ian Murray writes).

Some classes in Arab schools were also closed to mark the community's anger at the stonings and deliberate damage to Arab property. Gangs of young Jews in the Jerusalem suburbs which was the murdered man's home stoned cars. Roads were blocked by burning tyres.

In the Knesset yesterday afternoon a series of emergency motions on the murder and subsequent rioting were tabled.



Envoy to Pretoria

Johannesburg — Mr Edward Perkins (left), Washington's new and first black Ambassador to Pretoria, arrived here yesterday just as the three-week-old strike at General Motors in Port Elizabeth, provoked by the American parent company's decision last month to sell its South African operation to local management, collapsed (Michael Hornsby writes).

Mr Perkins said only that he was "glad to be in South Africa".

Fear over tax file theft

Ottawa — Police were questioning a suspect yesterday in the bizarre case of a stolen master file containing tax information on 16 million Canadians (John Best writes).

The file was recovered in Toronto only a few hours after its disappearance on October 30 had been announced in the House of Commons by Mr Elmer MacKay, the Minister of National Revenue.

It contained microfiche records on practically every Canadian who paid income tax last year. Officials could offer no immediate assurance that the file, or parts of it, had not been duplicated.

Ndebele chief dies

Johannesburg — The Chief Minister of the KwaNdebele tribal homeland, Mr Simon Skosana, aged 59, one of the main proponents of "independence" for the territory, has died in hospital. He had been ill for some time (Michael Hornsby writes).

Mr Skosana suffered a severe rebuff in August when the KwaNdebele Legislative Assembly decided not to go ahead with "independence", scheduled for December 11.

Back to school

Los Angeles — Ryan Thomas, a five-year-old AIDS victim, banned from kindergarten two months ago after biting another pupil, must be allowed to return to class, a Los Angeles judge has ruled (Ivor Davis writes).

Judge Alicemarie Stotler noted: "As well meaning as the school has tried to be, the overwhelming medical evidence presented to this court shows that there is nothing to fear from this child."

US experts claim Star Wars a waste of time

By Nicholas Beeson

British scientists who conduct research into President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) will be "wasting their time" according to two senior American scientists.

Dr Richard Garwin, a senior adviser to the US Government and IBM, and Dr Hugh DeWitt, a theoretical physicist at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California, also claimed that the Star Wars initiative is scientifically flawed.

The two men, who spoke to MPs in London yesterday,

Children for sale as Lebanese pound plunges

From Robert Fisk Beirut

Ahmed Badr Tawashih is offering to sell his children to the highest bidder. His advertisement in the Lebanese daily *an-Nahar* is uncompromising:

"For sale — eight children. I, Ahmed Badr Tawashih from Kibbeh, offer my eight under-aged children for the price of getting them out of Lebanon and giving them the basic necessities of life."

It was a terrible, unprecedented sign of the times in Lebanon, where the economy is collapsing so fast that tens of thousands of people are becoming impoverished by the week.

Yesterday, the Lebanese

pound — which stood at 5.5 against sterling in 1983 — passed the rate of 100 to the £, a fall of more than 10 per cent in 24 hours.

Nor was Mr Tawashih staging a public relations exercise. He walked into the Tripoli office of *an-Nahar*, pleading with the staff to print his advertisement on the grounds that it would cost his final savings. By last night, a man described as a Saudi prince and two people in Dubai had replied to his appeal.

In Cairo, the prince, who remained anonymous, called on the Lebanese ambassador, Mr Abdul-Rahman Solh, offering to adopt all eight children. A Dubai woman, Mawana Janna, said she would take in the daughters, while a

businessman in the same country, Abdullah al-Shafar, said he would do anything he could for the children.

The effect of the economic collapse has been immediate and dramatic. Repeated warnings about the fall of the Lebanese currency bore no relation to the extent of its destruction on the market yesterday, when the Central Bank foreclosed on all dealings to prevent its further decline.

In Hamra Street, in the commercial district of west Beirut, money-changers could be seen selling dollars with loaded pistols on their desks beside them. Not a bank in the city was without at least two gunmen protecting its premises. Bank robberies have

become endemic, despite assertions by the Syrian authorities in west Beirut that they will prevent thefts.

On one wall in Hamra Street someone had plastered a poster depicting an enlargement of a Lebanese £1 note, the smallest paper currency in the country and decorated with a drawing of the surviving columns of the Temple of Jupiter at Baalbek.

"The death of the Lebanese pound," said the caption underneath. And indeed, nothing could symbolize so mournfully the demise of a currency that once provided a financial pillar in the Arab world than the reproduction of a note which costs more to print than it is worth on the market.

Lebanese bankers spoke of "chaos" in the exchange rates when the US dollar passed \$1167.5 yesterday. There was near-panic at some exchange dealers as people tried to convert their money into dollars while the rates increased.

As all but the most staple foodstuffs increased in price, investors, businessmen and landlords found their wealth depreciating almost by the hour.

Everyone in Lebanon knows the reasons for the disaster: the absolute failure of the much-publicized Christian-Muslim rapprochement last spring, continued instability of southern Lebanon, the rapidly growing power of a rejuvenated Palestine Liberation Organization, and the

withdrawal of Western political and financial support — not to mention the inability of the Syrians to fulfil their "security plan" in west Beirut — has sapped all confidence in the currency.

Even as the money-changers were switching their rates yesterday, shells were falling around the Bourj el-Barajneh Palestinian camp in west Beirut from gun batteries in the Metn Hills. The targets were the Amal militiamen besieging the camp.

The artillery was being fired by supporters of Abu Mousa's Palestinian faction, theoretically loyal to Syria, and Amal, but giving support nonetheless to Mr Yassir Arafat's guerrillas inside the camp.

Farm ministers fail to resolve crisis over EEC dairy mountain

From Richard Owen, Brussels

After two days of talks, attempts by EEC farm ministers to agree on crisis measures to deal with Europe's dairy mountains collapsed yesterday with no glimmer of compromise in sight.

The EEC Commission had made the soaring milk and butter surpluses a test case of Europe's ability to cope with the crisis. The ministers' failure presents Mrs Thatcher with the unwelcome prospect of having to tackle the farm policy crisis when she presides over the EEC summit in London in two weeks' time.

The EEC meeting, chaired by Mr Michael Jopling, the British Agriculture Minister, held a final, late-night session in a bid to overcome resistance to reform in the beef sector, a slightly less intractable part of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

But Mr John Selwyn Gummer, the junior Agriculture Minister, said that there was no more than faint hope of a compromise on cuts in beef production, and further efforts would be made at the next EEC Farm Council on December 8 — the last under the British presidency.

The London EEC summit is the highlight of Britain's six-month presidency of the EEC Council of Ministers, which ends next month. Mrs Thatcher vowed before Britain took over in July that reform of the CAP would be a British priority.

Some officials believe that only heads of government — with Mrs Thatcher giving the lead — can now override the farm ministers' unwillingness to take decisions likely to alienate European farmers.

A rival school of thought, which appears to have the upper hand among those planning the London summit agenda, is that Mrs Thatcher would risk a debacle by asking fellow EEC leaders to sort out the thorny farming crisis at a two-day summit.

"Chancellor Kohl faces an election in January," one EEC diplomat said yesterday. "How can he damage his chances of re-election by putting German farmers out of business?"

Mrs Thatcher's best option, such diplomats say, is to "brush the CAP" problem under the carpet" and hand it over to the Belgians, who inherit the presidency in January. But some officials think that Mrs Thatcher's style

could lead her to tackle the CAP head-on.

The Commission is demanding total dairy quota cuts of 6 per cent and stiff fines for milk and butter surplus production.

It also wants limited intervention buying of EEC beef, with lower prices and strict thresholds for beef production in all EEC states, coupled with a determined beef export drive. There is a beef surplus of 600,000 tonnes, a milk powder surplus of a million tonnes and a butter mountain of 1.5 million tonnes.

Opposition to reform came yesterday from Herr Ignaz Kiechle, the West German Farm Minister, and M Francois Guillaume, his French counterpart, both of whom run farms of their own.

In reply to Mr Richard Cottrill, Conservative Euro-Parliamentary Member for Bristol, Mr Henning Christophersen, the Budget Commissioner, said that the Commission did not intend to abandon the CAP altogether, but its soaring costs had to be controlled.

On the Anglo-French lamb war, M Guillaume warned that attacks on lorries carrying British lamb to France would continue following the Commission's failure to agree on the application of a border tax to British lamb exports.

Mr Frans Andriessen, the Agriculture Commissioner, was said to be furious over poor attendance at the Commission's Monday meeting on the lamb war, but said he would still pursue a solution.

There was also bad feeling in talks on another food war — between Britain and Ireland over beef exports — with Mr Gummer accusing the Commission of discriminating against Britain by refusing to devalue the green pound for beef transactions.

Mr Gummer said that devaluation of the Irish green punt two months ago had given Ireland an unfair price advantage and that this, together with smuggling across the Irish-Ulster border, had had a devastating effect on the beef cattle industry of Northern Ireland.

Officials pointed out that although currency fluctuations had worked against Britain over Irish beef, they had benefited Britain in its lamb exports to France, so that it was a case of "swings and roundabouts". Mr Gummer said that the two issues were not connected.



Five of the crew who flew the last successful Columbia shuttle mission in January chatting with another astronaut, Michael Coats, second from left, at Cape Canaveral in Florida, where they have begun practicing for a simulated countdown.

Action Directe's latest victim

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Seven-year history of terror

Action Directe, the group responsible for the murder of M Georges Besse, managing director of Renault Cars, is an extreme-Left French terrorist organization which was formed in 1979 from the merger of two other militant extreme-Left groups. Since then, it has claimed responsibility for more than 50 terrorist attacks in France, mostly in and around Paris.

Its targets have mainly been military buildings, offices of political parties, establishments with Jewish connections and big business. At first, the attacks were aimed at causing material damage without actually injuring or killing people.

But its tactics have changed since January 1985, when the group split in two and a new and much more violent international faction emerged to join forces with the German Red Army Faction and the Belgian Cellules Communistes Combattantes (CCC). It is also thought to have links with the Italian Red Brigades and the Lebanese Armed Revolutionary Faction (Far), the group responsible for the recent wave of bombings in Paris.

The group claimed responsibility for the murder in January 1985 of General René Audran, head of France's arms sales division at the Ministry of Defence; the attempted murder of M Henri

Blandin, another senior French Defence official, in June 1985; the attempted murder of M Guy Braun, vice-president of the main French employers' association last April; and a bomb attack against a Paris police office in which Inspector Marcel Basdevant was killed last July.

It is also suspected of being responsible for the murder in April of Mr Kenneth Marston.

Amid a feeling of horror and indignation at Renault, M Aimé Jardon, deputy managing director, was named interim managing director yesterday. The executive board is to go ahead with a meeting on Friday when 5,000 more redundancies are expected to be announced (Diane Geddes writes from Paris).

British head of the French branch of Black and Decker, the American tool company.

The group's ideology and aims remain vague. After the bombing of the Interpol headquarters outside Paris in May it left pamphlets declaring its intention "to hit central installations which link their political, economic and military strategy, and at the heart of which are found the strongest antagonisms of the imperialist bourgeoisie; to concretize the qualitative leap of all antagonisms of the masses and

develop them toward a global revolutionary strategy".

The following is a list of attacks carried out by Action Directe over the past few months:

November 11: Three bombs in Paris outside French companies with South African links against President Botha's visit. No one hurt.

November 1: Two bombs in Paris in protest at the French Government's alleged anti-immigrant policies. One hurt.

July 21: A bomb attack against the Paris headquarters of the OECD. No one hurt.

July 9: A bomb attack against the offices of the anti-gang brigade of the Paris police, in which Inspector Basdevant was killed and three other policemen seriously injured.

July 6: Two bombs, one against a computer division of Thomson, the French electronics company, the other against the offices of Air Liquide.

May 16: Gun attack against Interpol headquarters outside Paris. A police officer injured.

April 26: Kenneth Marston, British head of the French branch of Black and Decker, shot dead outside his home in Lyons.

April 15: Attempted assassination by two gunmen of Guy Braun, vice-president of the main French employers' association, outside his home in the suburbs of Paris.

Syrian car 'used by bombers'

From John England Berlin

The Syrian Embassy in East Berlin was directly involved in a bomb attack in West Berlin by two Jordanians, the West Berlin High Court was told yesterday.

Ahmed Hasi, a brother of Nezar Hindawi, the terrorist jailed in Britain for 45 years, collected the bomb from the embassy about three weeks before the attack on the German-Arab Society's centre in the West Berlin on March 29.

The embassy's role in the bombing was described by Mr Hasi in a statement to police after his arrest on April 18 which was read by Herr Hans-Joachim Heinze, the presiding judge.

Both Mr Hasi and the other defendant, Faruk Salameh, have confessed to placing the bomb. Statements by Mr Hasi which were read in court on Monday said that the bomb was brought from Syria to the Syrian Embassy in East Germany in February by a man named either Abu Ahmed or Haytham Saed. An embassy car was used to carry the bomb.

Howe briefing: Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday briefed East Germany's Foreign Minister, Herr Oskar Fischer, on the Hindawi bomb plot and Syria's involvement.



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صكرا عن الامن

Amnesty
says Russian
involved in
Afghan tortu

Asians say sov
helicopters down

Amnesty report says Russians involved in Afghan torture

By Nicholas Beebon

Soviet occupation forces in Afghanistan, working with Afghan interrogators, have taken part in the torture of civilian prisoners since their invasion seven years ago, according to a report published today by Amnesty International.

Using evidence collected by former Afghan prisoners now living as refugees outside the country, the human rights group claims that civilian detainees are subjected regularly to electric shocks, beatings and other forms of torture and that several people are reported to have died following interrogation.

The report, called *Afghanistan: Torture of Political Prisoners*, claims that people suspected of supporting the anti-communist guerrillas are arrested by agents of the Khedmat-e-Etelaat-e-Dawlati (Khad), the state information service, and subjected to torture in several centres across the country.

Many witnesses said that Soviet personnel were present when prisoners were tortured and that they often appeared to be directing the interrogation.

In a few cases Russians were accused of actually taking part in electric-shock torture, using a device referred to as the "telephone", in which wires are attached to sensitive parts of the body and the handle on a small machine turned to generate electricity.

One Afghan bank em-

ployee, aged 29, recalls: "They applied the wires to my fingers and first one Afghan pulled the handle and after that the Soviet also pulled the handle once."

Former prisoners, who asked for their names not to be published, also reported having been beaten with clubs, wire cables and rubber lashes. Other forms of physical abuse included being deprived of sleep and being made to stand for long periods, sometimes in cold water or snow.

Women prisoners said that they were also tortured, and the report says that there are consistent accounts that women were forced to watch the torture of male detainees.

Conditions in Afghan prisons are also criticized, and the report says that detainees are often kept for long periods in solitary confinement or in overcrowded prisons like Pul-e Charkhi, outside Kabul, which was built for 5,000 inmates but now houses 10,000 people.

Amnesty claims that the torture and arrests without trial are a contravention of Afghan and international law.

The group said that it tried to contact President Gromyko of the Soviet Union and President Babrak Karmal of Afghanistan about the allegations. There was no response from either government.

Afghanistan: Torture of Political Prisoners (Amnesty International, 5 Roberts Place, London EC1R 0EJ, £2.50).

Muslims say seven helicopters down

Islamabad (AP) - Soviet and Afghan forces have made large-scale attacks against Muslim guerrilla forces across Afghanistan, resulting in savage fighting and heavy casualties in many parts of the country, according to western diplomatic sources here yesterday.

The sources said that reports from Afghanistan described heavy fighting in the north, south and east. Thousands of Soviet and Afghan Government soldiers, backed by tanks and aircraft, have been attacking guerrilla positions, they said.

Some of the heaviest fighting has been in Kandahar, in the south-east, where guerrillas and Soviet troops have been involved in street battles and many civilians killed in bombardments and air raids.

The guerrillas continued to hold most of the city, and Soviet and Afghan forces appeared to control only the airport and the government administrative area in the city. One western source said that the Russians had lost the vital 12-mile road linking the airport and the city.

There also has been heavy fighting in the surrounding region, and Soviet aircraft and ground forces have repeatedly attacked villages held by guerrillas or thought sympathetic to them.

More than 125 civilians were killed when five or six Soviet helicopter gunships attacked Pashmal, outside Kandahar, early this month, the sources said. Almost 150 Afghan soldiers had been killed in the fighting, but western sources have no reports on guerrilla or Soviet losses.

The guerrillas appeared to be doing well, and one western source said reports indicated that they had shot down seven helicopters.

Guerrilla officials based in Pakistan also report heavy fighting around Kandahar and say their forces have come under heavy air and artillery attack.

Western sources have also confirmed earlier guerrilla reports of heavy fighting in Takhar province in northern Afghanistan near the Soviet border.

Extra aid to Uganda means a boost for Leyland

By Andrew McEwen
Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain's £10 million package of additional aid to Uganda appeared likely yesterday to lead to sales of considerable numbers of Leyland trucks to the former protectorate. Whitehall sources said that negotiations were already under way between the Ugandan authorities and Leyland International.

President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda, who is on an official visit to Britain, put trucks at the top of his shopping list when the Prime Minister promised him the additional aid.

"He was absolutely delighted and immediately said how he would use the money", one source said. The deal is likely to have some indirect Government support, although officially it is a purely commercial transaction.

Arrangements for Britain to help in the repair and maintenance of large numbers of unserviceable British vehicles in Uganda have been under discussion during the visit.

The talks are to be carried forward by Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, who is to fly to Kampala next month.

Details were being completed yesterday on the supply of veterinary drugs worth £2 million as part of British aid.

The whole of the £10 million offered by Mrs Thatcher is new grant money and in addition to the £30 million previously promised, which includes £22 million for repairs to the Owen Falls hydro-



President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda speaking at a press conference in London yesterday. Photograph by Tim Bishop.

electric plant on Lake Victoria.

A sharp disagreement between Whitehall and Kampala on the terms under which British military instructors would be sent to Uganda has been solved.

The Ugandans objected to a memorandum signed by ex-

President Milton Obote which exempted instructors from penalties under Ugandan law.

President Museveni yesterday described this as "an affront to our national sovereignty". The sticking point in talks to overcome Ugandan objections was their insistence that British soldiers should be

subject to the death penalty if they committed serious offences.

"To restore law and order they have had to discipline their own soldiers very harshly, and they were not going to make exceptions for our men", a Whitehall source said.

The compromise reached was that future instructors would be given diplomatic immunity and would be attached to the British High Commission in Kampala.

Future groups will be sent in much smaller numbers, the first leaving early in the New Year.

The senior partner in the coalition, the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party, also won an absolute majority in the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies.

Officials said that the President began discussions with the Finance Minister, Senhor Dilson Fumero, the Planning Minister, Senhor João Sayad, and other senior advisers to consider changes in the anti-inflation programme.

The anti-inflation drive, the Cruzado Plan, was introduced last February and cut significantly Brazil's inflation rate from more than 200 per cent.

Prices have risen only an accumulated 10.25 per cent from March to October. The plan gave Brazil a new currency, the cruzado, and officially froze prices which was a spectacular political success, credited with helping to bring about the Government's electoral victory.

Brazilian leaders meet on economy

Brasilia (Reuter) - President Sarney of Brazil met senior ministers yesterday to discuss adjustments to his anti-inflation programme and other changes following a landslide Government victory in national elections in Saturday's poll.

The ruling coalition won the governorships of all 23 states, the most stunning electoral win in Brazil's political history.

The senior partner in the coalition, the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party, also won an absolute majority in the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies.

Officials said that the President began discussions with the Finance Minister, Senhor Dilson Fumero, the Planning Minister, Senhor João Sayad, and other senior advisers to consider changes in the anti-inflation programme.

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All smiles as North Korean leader greets guest

Kim appears in public to bury reports of his assassination

From David Watts, Tokyo

Striding down a crimson carpet and beaming broadly at his visitor from Mongolia, President Kim Il Sung of North Korea looked very much alive at Pyongyang airport yesterday.

Wearing a cap and three-quarter overcoat in the autumn chill, he walked between two wildly enthusiastic rows of his citizens waving flags of welcome for Mr Jambyn Batmönh, Secretary-General of the People's Revolutionary Party of Mongolia.

Film of President Kim, aged 74, was the main item on television news in Tokyo after two days of special bulletins speculating on whether the President was alive.

In spite of his appearance, news of his demise and replacement by the Defence Minister, Marshal O Jin U, was still being broadcast over propaganda loudspeakers behind the demilitarized zone separating North and South Korea, according to the Defence Ministry in Seoul.

Neither the Defence Minister nor the President's son, Mr Kim Jong Il, were at the airport ceremony.

The Ministry spokesman, however, was later forced to call a press conference similar to the one at which he made the announcement of President Kim's death on Monday. There was, he said, still a strong possibility of internal strife in North Korea and the south must remain vigilant.

The opposition New Korea Democratic Party was more

direct: the Cabinet should resign to take responsibility for spreading false information. It said that the Government had used the alleged broadcasts as an excuse to tighten security. The Government met for the second special Cabinet meeting in two days.

Editorial comment in South Korean newspapers was also critical. The Government should be more careful in its handling of information in future, one said.

Though reports of President Kim's death were greatly exaggerated, questions still remain as to whether the events of the last two days signify conflicts within the leadership of the North Korean Communist Party and with the military.

It is significant that Marshal O Jin U has not been seen in public for some time, and recent reports in Hong Kong have said that he was involved in a car accident.

He is the most influential figure in Pyongyang after the two Kims, and the reports broadcast at the demilitarized zone that he was in control may indicate that he has fallen out of favour with the leadership or that there is some disagreement between the President and his son who is close to the Defence Minister.

● PEKING: President Kim "looked healthy and fit" when he greeted the Mongolian leader, according to witnesses. He was also "talking continually" to those around him (Robert Grievess writes).



President Kim, right, greeting the Mongolian leader, Mr Jambyn Batmönh, at Pyongyang. Below, the North Korean Defence Minister, Marshal O Jin U, who was reported to have taken control and is now involved in a power struggle.



Colombo 'agrees' Tamil homeland

From Kuldip Nayyar, Delhi

The Tamil Nadu Government told the state assembly in Madras yesterday that "some progress" had been made in finding a solution to Sri Lanka's ethnic problem.

The state government said that the talks between Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, and President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka during the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (Sarc) meeting in Bangalore centred on the devolution of power.

The Sri Lanka Government is said to have agreed to merge parts of the Eastern Province

with the Tamil-majority Northern Province to make it a single Tamil unit. But leaders of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, which controls the north, wants the merger of the entire Eastern Province with the Northern.

● BANGALORE: The Sri Lankan Foreign Minister, Mr Shahul Hameed, and the Indian Minister of State for External Affairs, Mr Natwar Singh, yesterday resumed their efforts to end the island's ethnic war after Tamil separatist guerrillas rejected proposals put forward in three days of peace talks.

Papal tour to enhance link with Muslims

From Michael Hamlyn, Dhaka

The Pope is due to arrive in Bangladesh early today to a flurry of white and yellow papal flags, a 21-gun salute from the newly civilian Government, and a renewed opportunity to press for closer relations between Catholics and Muslims.

Only a tiny proportion — 0.31 per cent — of Bangladesh is Christian, but even a tiny part of 100 million is a lot of people.

The country's 180,000 Roman Catholics have in the past been regarded as "foreigners", and as such have cultivated a ghetto mentality. But since the 1971 war of independence, when at least three priests were martyred by the Pakistanis, they have been able to develop closer relations with the overwhelming (85 per cent) Muslim majority.

In Khulna diocese in the country's lush estuarine southwest, for example, joint prayer meetings with Christians and Muslims are held regularly. A Muslim hereditary holy man helps to lead the worship. Both Islam and Hinduism are taught at the National Catholic Seminary in Dhaka.

The Pope's attitude to Muslims was expounded in Casablanca last year, when he declared: "Christians and Muslims, we have badly misunderstood each other, and sometimes we have opposed and even exhausted each other in polemics and in wars. I believe that today God invites us to change our old ways."

Nevertheless, Christians in Bangladesh have to be careful not to give offence. According to Father Jyoti Gomes, head of the Christian Communication Centre in the old town of Dhaka, Christians are now allowed to preach and propagate their faith, but he added wryly: "I don't know what will happen when Bangladesh becomes an Islamic republic."

The Pope arrives in the middle of the week-long celebrations marking the Prophet Muhammad's birthday, and so has been steered delicately away from the densely populated city centre, where local Muslims will be holding prayer meetings and where a local daily, *Janglil* (Islamic Revolution), owned by the central Government's Minister for Religious Affairs, has already drawn public attention to the presence of 110 foreign missionaries in the country.

When the Pope celebrates Mass in this fourth Muslim country he has visited, it will not be in the national stadium in the city centre but in the Army stadium safely inside the military area.

The Church in Bangladesh had kept a low profile during the martial law regime just ended. It "did not say anything in public," said one Church leader, though it did set up a Justice and Peace Commission and, just recently, a national body on human rights.

The Pontiff will spend only 24 hours here before going on to Singapore, Fiji, New Zealand, Australia and the Seychelles.

Jerusalem concern for Jews in Iran

From Ian Mistry, Jerusalem

There is mounting public concern in Israel over the fate of up to 30,000 Jews still living in Iran in the wake of reports from refugee sources in Vienna that they are suffering increasing persecution.

When Ayatollah Khomeini came to power in 1979 there were an estimated 80,000 Jews in Iran. Many appear to have left shortly afterwards, fearing that they would be victimized in the new Islamic republic. Of those who left some 15,000 came to Israel.

Over the past three years the numbers leaving Iran appear to have shrunk as new rules and regulations have made it more difficult and expensive to leave. Many of those remaining are understood to be old and frightened by the idea of leaving their homes, despite the persecution.

The Israeli Government, which keeps a close eye on communities in the diaspora, has been doing its best in public to urge Jews to leave, and in private has been seeking ways to bring them out.

Figures were unobtainable from official sources here yesterday, but some reports suggest that there has been a surge of up to 100 refugees a week leaving recently, all with tales of torture and hardship.

Most are understood to have gone on to the United States, and virtually all are keeping quiet about exactly how they managed to leave Iran.

Some appear to have bought their way to freedom; others have made a dangerous crossing by land into neighbouring countries.

It has been rumoured here that Israel agreed to act as the carrier for American arms delivered to Iran in order to obtain permission for Jews to leave the country.

There has been no comment on these rumours or on suggestions that another secret, wholesale evacuation of the Iranian Jewish community has been planned, similar to that which brought the Falashas out of Ethiopia last year.

One official said here yesterday: "Israel tries to do things to help. It is really a matter of life and death."

● BAHRAIN: Salvage tugs fought to put out a fire on the Liberian-registered tanker Crown Hope yesterday after it was attacked by an Iranian gunboat in the southern Gulf. All 26 members of the crew were taken off without injury (Reuters reports).

Regional shipping sources said that the 37,439-ton vessel was hit by a missile in the engine room early yesterday morning while en route from Karachi to Kuwait.

The sources said four tugs had brought the blaze under control.

Rabin flies to soothe the Finns

From Olli Kivinen, Helsinki

The Israeli Defence Minister, Mr Yitzhak Rabin, arrived here yesterday for a 24-hour visit to soothe relations between his country and Finland.

He met President Koivisto of Finland soon after his arrival, although the visit is theoretically private. He will also have discussions with his Finnish counterpart, Mr Veikko Piilajamäki.

Yesterday's talks dealt with bilateral matters and the position of Unifil troops in south Lebanon. Mr Rabin repeated that Israel does not want to strengthen the role of Unifil near its northern border.

Last month Unifil's Finnish commander, Major General Gustav Haegglund, challenged Israel to allow Unifil to prove its capability in the Israeli security zone" in south Lebanon, but Israel refused. The security zone is held by the Israeli-controlled "South Lebanon Army".

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1986

1. The Red Indian dope trick.

Even in the days when America was known as the New World, it was a country with a reputation for its spirit of enterprise and the ability of its people to make a good deal.

When the settlers started negotiating, the natives hardly knew what had hit them — and in the summer of 1626, probably the most spectacular real estate coup in history took place.

Governor Peter Minuit of the Dutch West India Company had the job of buying Manhattan Island from the Indians.

After some haggling with Chief Manhasset, the price was agreed at 24 dollars' worth of kettles, axes and cloth.

Today, \$24 would not buy one square foot of office space in New York City and an office block in central Manhattan changes hands for around \$80 million. Even allowing for inflation, Minuit got himself a real bargain.

2. Not again, Josephine!

You would think that the Manhattan deal would remain a one-off for ever. After all, the Americans would surely never find anyone as naive as the Indian chief again.

But less than two centuries later, they did — and this time the loser was Napoleon, Emperor of France and (in his early years, at least) a brilliant military tactician.

In 1803, Napoleon had his mind on European affairs (in particular, an invasion of Britain), so he decided to dispense with France's American possessions.

He sold the entire Mississippi valley, an area of 828,000 square miles extending from Canada down to the Gulf of Mexico and westwards to the Rockies, for just over 27 million dollars.

Through this deal, known as the Louisiana purchase, President Thomas Jefferson doubled the size of the United States for only around 5 cents per acre.

The judgement of the Emperor, on the other hand, never seemed to be quite the same again.



5. The man of steel — at a steal.

Publishers are notorious for turning down lucrative business deals. (For example, 'Jonathan Livingston Seagull' was rejected by eighteen, while twenty-two gave the thumbs-down to James Joyce's 'The Dubliners'.)

However, in 1938, one publisher got it brilliantly right.

On June 1st of that year, 'Action Comics' appeared, featuring a character by the name of Superman (and, by turns, Clark Kent).

The character seemed to go down quite well, so the publisher offered to buy all rights to him from his creators, Joe Shuster and Jerry Siegel.

They needed money badly — so they settled for the sum of \$130, or \$65 each.

Today, of course, Superman is such big business that Marlon Brando was able to command \$3 million for his ten-minute role in the first Superman movie.

If you had seen Shuster and Siegel when they realised what they had done, you would believe a man can cry.



6. Striking a bargain.

Just occasionally, however, the seller does come out of a clever business deal on top — as in this example of a man who sold an idea to a manufacturing company.

The particular beauty of this deal lies in the fact that the idea was not one which he could put into practice himself.

He simply approached a leading match company and offered to tell them how they could save thousands of pounds by means of one change to their manufacturing procedures. The change would cost absolutely nothing to carry out — but he would require a substantial percentage of the savings in return for the idea.

Not surprisingly, the match company were more than a little suspicious, and turned him down. After all, if this idea was so obvious to an outsider, surely they could work it out for themselves.

many astonishing business deals (both good and bad) — but perhaps the greatest of them all occurred in 1955.

In that year, RCA Records paid Sam Phillips, the owner of a tiny Memphis recording company called Sun Records, the sum of \$35,000 for the exclusive contract he had with an unconventional young singer with a grossly exaggerated hip action.

Phillips was happy with the deal at the time. After all, it seemed like a lot of money and in any case, the young man had only wandered into his studio one day to cut a record on spec as a present for his mother.

But RCA knew what they were doing. In the years that followed, Elvis Presley went on to sell over a billion records — and is still selling today.

9. A horse in a Million.

In 1978, the American bicycle importer Sam Rubin bought a 3-year-old racehorse for \$25,000.

Arguably the ten greatest business deals of all time.

3. Nice ice at a reasonable price.

Napoleon did just manage to reach Moscow in his ill-fated invasion of 1812 — but it would seem that news of his poor American deal did not.

For, astonishingly, the Russians went on to become the third victims of major land deals with America.

On March 30th 1867, the U.S. Secretary of State, William Seward, bought Alaska from Tsar Alexander II for a mere \$7.2 million — thereby acquiring another 586,000 square miles of territory for less than 2 cents per acre.

The Tsar presumably thought that this remote, frozen and virtually uninhabited piece of land had nothing at all to commend it — and at first, the American people agreed with him, for Alaska was known as 'Seward's folly' and 'Seward's ice box' for years.

In 1896, however, gold was struck at Klondike in the Yukon, and since then, over 750 million dollars' worth has been mined.

In 1968, black gold was discovered — and an estimated 100 billion tons of coal are also lying underground, just waiting to be dug up.

4. More frozen assets.

The frozen wastes of North America again proved to be a bargain basement in 1933.

A young Greek entrepreneur, who had already made money importing tobacco into Argentina, had been trying to break into the shipping business for well over a year.

At the time, there was a world slump in the trade. No one was making any money — but the young man realised that such a situation could not go on for ever and that if he could pick up some cheap second-hand vessels now, he would be perfectly placed to make a killing when things did change.

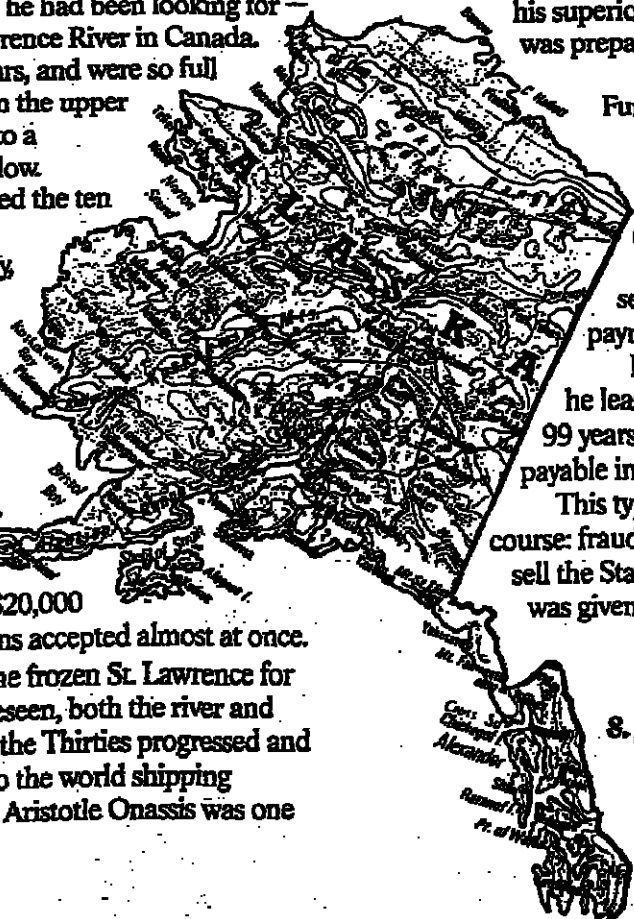
Eventually he found just the ships he had been looking for — frozen solid into the ice-packed St. Lawrence River in Canada. They had been rusting there for two years, and were so full of ice and snow that when he walked on the upper deck of one of them, he disappeared into a snowdrift and ended up on the deck below.

Not surprisingly, no one else wanted the ten vessels — least of all their owners, the Canadian National Steamship Company, who were prepared to let them go for their scrap value of \$30,000 each, even though they had cost a total of \$2 million to build ten years previously.

Yet despite his scare in the snowdrift, the young Greek kept his wits about him and managed to determine that the ships were still structurally sound. He offered a paltry \$20,000 for each of six ships — and the Canadians accepted almost at once.

His 'fleet' remained at anchor in the frozen St. Lawrence for several months — but just as he had foreseen, both the river and the world depression finally thawed. As the Thirties progressed and the likelihood of world war increased, so the world shipping business boomed — and in a few years, Aristotle Onassis was one of the richest men in the world.

His 'fleet' remained at anchor in the frozen St. Lawrence for several months — but just as he had foreseen, both the river and the world depression finally thawed. As the Thirties progressed and the likelihood of world war increased, so the world shipping business boomed — and in a few years, Aristotle Onassis was one of the richest men in the world.



They duly went through the whole factory with a fine tooth-comb — but found nothing. By this time, they were so intrigued by the man's offer that they went back to him and agreed that if he could save them money, he could have the cut he wanted.

"Just put one striking surface on each matchbox instead of two," he advised them. "You'll cut the money you spend on abrasives by 50%."

They did — and they did. And over the next few years, the man who sold them the idea made a small fortune.

7. A monumental coup.

Arthur Furguson went a stage further, however. He made money by selling things which weren't even his in the first place.

One morning in 1923, he spotted a rich American in Trafalgar Square and had a brainwave.

Introducing himself as the official guide to the square, Furguson explained all about Nelson's Column, the lions and the fountains — and just happened to mention what a shame it was that Britain was having to sell them off to meet soaring debts.

The American asked the price. "£6,000 to the right buyer," replied Furguson, adding that as guide, he had been entrusted with the job of making the sale.

The American begged him to sell the square to him. At length, Furguson consented and went off to 'agree the deal with his superiors'. On his return, he announced that Britain was prepared to accept a cheque on the spot.

The delighted tourist wrote one at once. Furguson gave him a receipt — and even the name and address of a firm who would dismantle the square ready for shipping — and promptly marched off to cash the cheque.

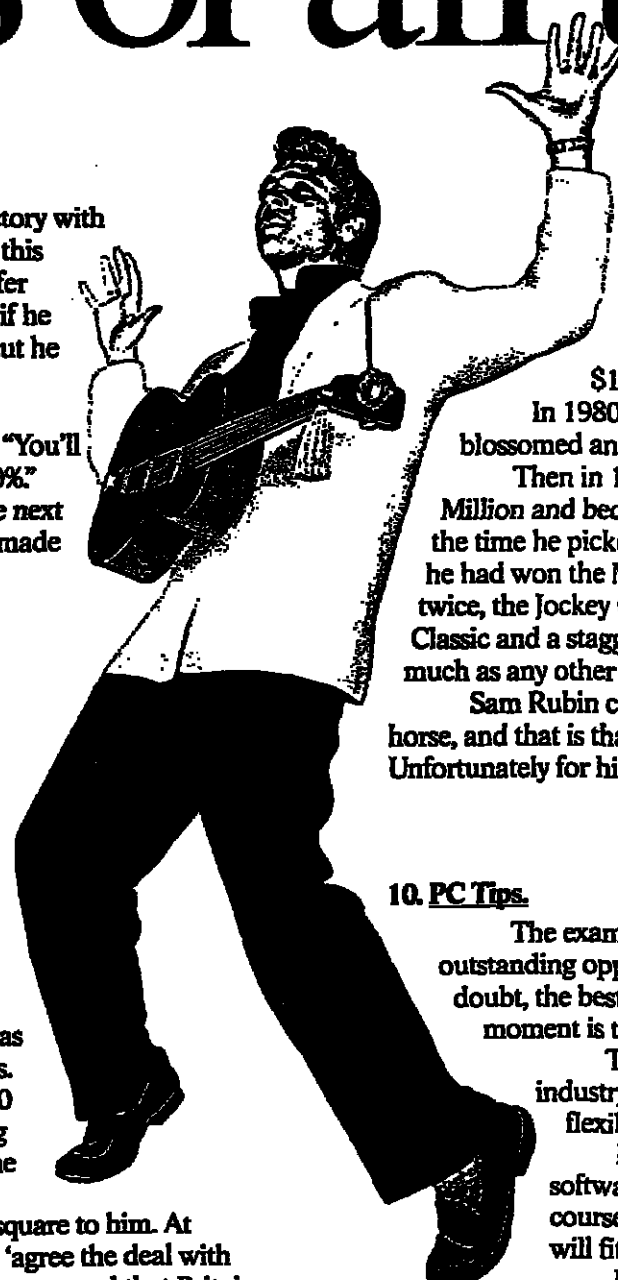
Later that summer, Furguson went on to sell Big Ben for £1,000 and accepted a down payment of £2,000 on Buckingham Palace.

In 1925, he went to Washington D.C., where he leased the White House to a cattle-rancher for 99 years at \$100,000 p.a. — with the first year payable in advance.

This type of business deal has a special name, of course: fraud. Furguson was eventually caught trying to sell the Statue of Liberty for another \$100,000 and was given five years in prison.

8. All stitched up.

In the unstable and unpredictable world of popular music, there have been



There didn't seem to be anything remarkable about John Henry at the time, and his previous owner was certainly satisfied with the amount, as he had bought the horse for only \$1,100 as a yearling.

In 1980, however, John Henry suddenly blossomed and won \$925,000 in prize money.

Then in 1981, he won the inaugural Arlington Million and became America's Horse of the Year. By the time he picked up the title for a second time in 1984, he had won the Million again, the Santa Anita Handicap twice, the Jockey Gold Cup, the Ballantine's Scotch Classic and a staggering \$6,591,860 — almost twice as much as any other horse in world racing history.

Sam Rubin can have only one regret about his horse, and that is that he has no stud value at all. Unfortunately for him, John Henry is a gelding.

10. PC Tips.

The example of John Henry proves that outstanding opportunities do still exist — and without doubt, the best deal in office computers at the moment is the Epson PC+.

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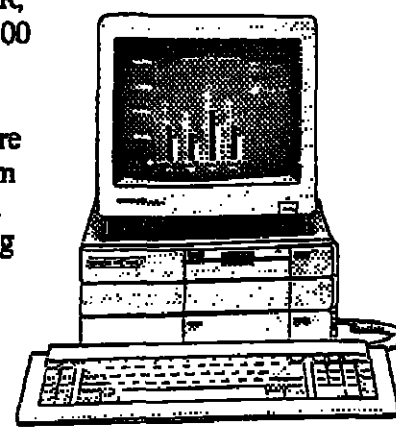
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As you would expect of an Epson, the PC+ is also exceptionally reliable.

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THE ARTS

Exposed persons

I once met an Arab in Petra who by day sold Coca Cola to blue-rinse Americans and at night reverted to his position as sheikh of the local tribe. "The more money you have," he said, jangling the day's takings, "the more brain-cells you need to cope with it."

TELEVISION

As with money, so with television exposure. All too often the ordinary act of sitting before a camera results in a dangerous feedback. Victims start believing what people tell them in supermarkets. Swelling into harrags, balloons of egotism, they drift loose from their moorings and become a menace to the whole firmament. Until, that is, some anonymous producer brings them down to earth and a world of obscurity salted, years later, with questions like "Weren't you...?"

Just as one was asking oneself Whatever Happened to Robert Robinson, the depilated quizmaster pops up in *The Magic Rectangle* (BBC2) with an enjoyable piece of "light anthropology" about who becomes a Television Personality and how they are effected by this dubious bouquet.

As over-articulate as ever, and superbly served by the editor Alan Lygo, Robinson divided the TP world into those with character and those without. Before the Magic Rectangle, you gained an audience's attention by doing something it could not. Now, in Macdonald Hobley's words, "if you pick your nose on television, and pick it often, you will become a television personality". As Jimmy Saville sagely explained, "just because you are famous doesn't make you special... it makes you lucky".

Judging from Robinson's interviews, many stars could not make this distinction. In so strongly denying they were TPs, some implied their impact came about through an extraordinary individuality. "They trust you", day-dreamed Esther Rantzen of the fans who wrote her letters. Nose-pickers apart, those with genuine character - or "brain-cells" - were contemptuous of a medium requiring them to express rather than suppress their egos. Recognizing its corrupting influence, Margaret Lockwood, who returned to the screen in *Simon De* became "more invisible than if he'd never been". What, I wonder, will happen to Mr Robinson?

Nicholas Shakespeare



Kind and gentle at heart: Michael Williams, Judi Dench (photograph by Donald Cooper)

Movingly comic truths

Whatever your mistrust of male feminism, Keith Waterhouse has done us all a good turn by revealing the secret life of Mrs Charles Pooter.

From *Mrs Pooter's Diary* and *The Collected Letters of a Nobody* it emerges that, unknown to Charles, Carrie hated moving into Brickfield Terrace, regarded her husband's boss as something less than God and schemed to escape from "The Laurels" back to her beloved Peckham.

To get the full flavour of the drama you need to read the Waterhouse archive alongside Charles's unsuspecting entries in the original *Diary of a Nobody*. This is a tiresome process; and Mr Waterhouse has now rendered it unnecessary by conflating Carrie's and Charles's diaries into the best comedy to reach the West End this year.

One thing it proves is that Carrie's diary is no mere piece of artful pastiche. Side by side, there is no telling Waterhouse and Crossmith apart - either in faultless middle-class

THEATRE

Mr and Mrs Nobody Garrick

phrasing, encyclopedic knowledge of the brand names of the 1880s or ability to build marvellous chains of farcical incident from domestic banalities.

The other discovery is that, theoretically speaking, Carrie is more than a match for Charles. With his pipe, his snug job in the City and his case of Lockbar whisky, he is a contented being. Carrie is not. Besides resenting the cloud of railway smoke in her parlour, she has romantic yearnings for a gentlemanly stationer, and insistent dreams of a better life in a house with bow-windows run in full accordance with *Lady Carmell's Vade Mecum for the Bijou Household*. Above all, her desires fasten

on acquiring a "Wenham Lake" ice-sax; which, alas, is all she does get in the end.

From that, you might expect a comedy at the expense of lower-middle-class aspiration. Neither in Waterhouse's text nor in Ned Sherrin's beautifully judged production is there the least trace of a sneer. Carrie and Charles are creatures of their time and place. They are not vulgar; and if any judgement comes across it is that they are gentler and kinder than their modern equivalents.

Michael Williams's Charles, pipe immovably clenched in his teeth, generally appears from Carrie's viewpoint as a dear old thing who can be relied on always to wind up at the end of the queue. He is always popping in with revelations that she has already made, and exploding into paroxysms of laughter at puns that leave her stone-faced. As Mr Williams also has to stand in for Lupin, Mr Perkupp, and the local tradesmen (mercifully he has been spared the

impersonation of the Hol-lowy Comedians), his performance is something less than that of an equal partner.

It is Carrie's evening, and Judi Dench presents her in masterly detail: switching from endearments to a brisk demand for a new dress; studying Lupin's intended, through narrowed eyes ("her hair, I fancy, is no stranger to the automatic curler"); returning sadly from being snubbed by the stationer to the cheering, discovering that Charlie has bought her a present - which, alas, turns out to be the invariable bangle.

With its plangent parlour-song-book extracts, a deliciously funny mute servant from Penny Ryder, and the Royston Express clattering behind the windows of Julia Trevelyan Oman's cluttered set, the production makes stylish fun of the period. But, underlying everything else, it is a truthful portrait of marriage.

Irving Wardle

CONCERT

Quorum Purcell Room

There are moments in his new quartet, *Three Nocturnes*, when George Nicholson throws off a self-imposed greyness and demonstrates his undoubted ability to write bold, musical gestures. They occur principally in the middle nocturne, which is brisker, better varied and more abrasive than the outer two. The clarinetist takes up the bass of the family with quirky effect, and the pianist has some telling virtuosic outbursts.

I would have liked much more in this pungent vein and less of the earnest dourness surrounding it - where clarinet, violin and cello all seemed to be playing very slowly in the same, also-fish register, and piano supplying innocuous chords. Still, all this clearly carried out the composer's stated "scheme": that an initially discursive atmosphere is disturbed by irrational elements, before returning with renewed serenity.

In an harmonic idiom reminiscent of Henze, Tim Evers's quartet *Quadrivium* (receiving its London premiere) also sounded mellifluous but undemonstrative for too long. However, the material expanded powerfully towards the end, when the contrapuntal lines were pulled into strong chordal progressions over an insistent ostinato.

Richard Morrison

OPERA

Jenufa Covent Garden

black at any mention of death. Then again, even supposing anything could be gained by showing the Kostelnicka putting the baby into the icy river, the gesture is not exactly strengthened when it is mirrored by six bare-chested young men flinging their shirts to the ground.

This brutal, bathetic amplification of the obvious is all too characteristic of the production, but reaches its deadening climax at the end of the second act, when Lyubimov throws in all his tricks: flapping doors, crude jolts of lighting, powerfully outlined crosses. The third act takes the religious motif even further, though still without offering any explanation for its presence in an opera that is as little Christian as Janacek's *Glagolitic Mass*.

But saddest is the fact that within the flailing extrapolations and exaggerations there are some excellent ideas about how to match the sharply featured motifs and the repetitions of Janacek's vocal writing with equivalents in terms of movement. And, when it is not in wild commotion, Paul Herson's set is an aptly severe background for the kind of telling, compelling acting that is struggling to emerge.

The two characters who remain strong are Eva Randova's Kostelnicka and Philip

Langridge's Laca. Miss Randova uses her searing but never ugly tone to suggest a woman of intense passion, acting from disturbed emotional involvement and not at all from embitterment or a sense of moral rectitude. She cuts through the nonsense of the production without effort. So does Mr Langridge, with the fine beauty of his singing and his modulation from frantic impotence and frustration (his violence at the end of the first act is the explosion of a latent frenzy) to conjugal relaxation.

Ashley Putnam's Jenufa is not on this level. In her acting she offers a carefully controlled display of the role's melodramatic range of emotion, but her tone is strained when she puts pressure on her voice, and so variety of vocal nuance is missing. Neil Rosenheim makes a dim impression as Steva. However, some of the smaller roles are excellently lively, notably Linda Kitchen's Jano and Claire Powell's Karolka.

The orchestra, as I have suggested, has some problems with Janacek's rhythms and with his more strenuous writing, though I cannot think why so many woodwind solos have to be quite colourless. It is also very extraordinary that the Royal Opera were not able to use Sir Charles Mackerras's edition of Janacek's original scoring but have to play the Kovarovic version.

The final indignity of the evening, the grotesque innovation of "surtitles", demands lengthier consideration at a later date.

Paul Griffiths

Struggling to turn the clock back

JAZZ

Miles Davis Wembley Centre

The final act was like some ghastly parody of a Duran Duran concert: Miles Davis and his musicians slid away, leaving their synthesizers wailing sonic geometry on the dramatically spottled stage. The audience, largely raised on the behaviour patterns of rock, recognized this for what it was: the classic invitation to demand an encore. When Davis returned, he had changed from a glittering bat-winged black and silver jacket into a huge white blouson encrusted with gold sequins; as an aesthetic statement, it seemed as significant as anything that had gone before.

You have to admire the spirit that drives Davis, who turned 60 this year, to renew himself at the fountain of youth. These old-timers who believe his current work to be shallow and undignified must at least recognize that whatever motivates him to take a

role as a pimp in *Miami Vice*, to boast of his friendship with the pop star Prince and to appear on stage dressed like an accident in Kryste Carrington's dressing-room is the very same urge that also impelled him towards his greatest work.

Davis and his seven-man band performed for two and a half hours on Monday night: an impressive feat for a man of his medical record, although he spent a fair proportion of the time parked silently in front of the drum rostrum, the back of his head radiating that old simmering impatience. When he did put his red-lacquered trumpet to his lips, he showed that his playing has regained power and mobility in the years since his faltering return from retirement.

The repertoire was drawn almost exclusively from his last two albums, two synthesizer-players carefully reproducing the recorded settings. Davis responded to the faster tunes with brusque fanfares that were like having lemon juice squirted in your eyes, although on "Portia", a hovering ballad, "Star People", a slow blues, and the



Miles Davis: radiating the old simmering impatience

moody "Tutu" he hinted that he can still, if pressed, construct elegant and logical variations.

The fit man of 1986 certainly never approached the emotional impact of the 1982 palsied wail. Surely, though, it can only have been the interminable saxophone and guitar solos, respectively the work of Bob Berg and Garth Webber, that made two and a half hours of Miles Davis - once the embodiment of less-is-more as a way of life - seem like 90 minutes too many.

Richard Williams

ROCK

Suzanne Vega Albert Hall

Albert Hall in a plain Sunday-best dress looking as if she was singing at an end-of-term event in the school assembly hall.

Like Joan Baez, Joani Mitchell and Rickie Lee Jones before her, Vega is essentially a folk-singer who has found herself embraced by a rock audience, and she demonstrated with "Left of Centre" and "Luca" that she was not about to bite the hand that feeds her, as her piece-band made a passable representation of the passed pop-rock sound favoured by

Fleetwood Mac during their *Rumours* period.

More appealing were the intense, dreamy arpeggios of a new song, "Language", and the delicately observed "The Queen and the Soldier", a twisted romantic allegory that reminded me of the short stories of Ursula Le Guin. The acoustic "Knight Moves", with its repeated refrain of "Do you love me?" was a touch on the sentimental side, but a *cappella* version of "Tom's Diner" had a more pleasingly vulnerable air as well as confirming the unusually pure quality of her voice. Though she is not destined to be the next Bob Dylan there was a quiet authority to her performance, and she will be adored by her fans for many years to come.

David Sinclair

The versatile Bryan Forbes (right) achieves yet another ambition when *Killing Jessica*, the first "whodunnit" he has ever directed for the stage, opens at the Savoy tonight: interview by Simon Banner

Writing a new chapter

Since 1948, when Bryan Forbes emerged, so to speak, from *The Small Back Room*, the somewhat gloomy film in which he made his screen debut, he has proved himself to be the British cinema's pre-eminent all-rounder. As an actor he did seem to spend the first half of the 1950s mainly incarcerated in, or escaping from, assorted POW camps. But by the end of the decade, having gained an Academy Award nomination for his script for *The Angry Silence*, he was as much in demand as a writer as for his abilities as an actor. He went on to write 78 screenplays, and to direct and produce as well, while at

EMI, where he was head of production for three years. Forbes was also responsible for such well-liked and well-remembered films as *The Railway Children*, *The Go-Between* and *The Ragging Moon*.

By that reckoning, to which should be added two recently written and internationally best-selling novels, the 59-year-old Forbes must have few ambitions left unfulfilled. But he achieves yet one more tonight at the Savoy Theatre with the opening of *Killing Jessica*. "Of course, I've directed plays in the theatre before," he explains, "but never a whodunnit, though it's

something I've always wanted to do."

Whether audiences will share Forbes's enthusiasm for the project is hard to say, though perhaps it is easier to predict that the critics will not. The critics in *Killing Jessica*, itself set in the world of the theatre, leave the first night of the ill-fated heroine's latest and last play "looking like Himmler just after he'd taken a cyanide tablet". So can we expect such faces after the curtain at the Savoy tonight?

"Oh, I hope not," the director says. "But why would you think that anyway? Just because it's not Ibsen or something? There are a lot of people who enjoy who-



dunnits, so I think that it's by the standards of other such plays that *Killing Jessica* should be judged. I'd say it was a very clever piece of entertainment, easily as good as *The Mousetrap*, for example.

"And for me as a director it turned out to be a very complicated play to put on. There were problems of staging and performance which have presented a considerable challenge, though I'm pleased with the solutions I've come up with. Not that the task is over yet anyway, because in the theatre the director's job goes on and on. I have to make sure that people who come along after we've run a month are still getting their money's worth. And the same," he adds with a laugh, "after a year as well."

Whatever *Jessica's* fate might be, however, Forbes's appears more certain. This foray into the theatre represents his first real break from writing for two years, and at a time when he has found world-wide audiences with such novels as *The Rewrite Man* and *The Endless Game*. "In my own estimation," he says, "I've always been a writer. It was journalism, short stories and novels that led me to screenwriting, and screenwriting which led me to directing, though basically I've always been driven by necessity - the necessity to earn my living. When the film offers haven't come along," he adds (and somewhat implausibly for someone who was reputedly earning as much as \$100,000 a script 20 years ago), "I've had to go back to writing in order to pay the gas bills, and vice versa."

Offers do still come in, but not for the sort of work he wants to do. "I turn down a lot of films," the man Fleet Street once christened "Mr Clean" says, "because they revolt me with their violence." The films he has made during the last few years, *International Vever* being one example, have not found much favour at the box-office. Such soft-focus essays in nostalgia and romance as *Jessie*, however, an oft-repeated film he made for the BBC and which starred his wife, Nanette Newman, sit happily enough on the small screen, and it is in that medium that his future efforts are likely to be concentrated.

"I have several projects under way," he explains, "one of them a film about Scott Fitzgerald, but I think they will probably all end up on television rather than in the cinema. I like the editorial control you get on television, though books are best. There's only one signature on a novel, after all. There are very many times when I've gone to the first night of a film I've directed and I've hardly recognized it, and now it seems as if some of the black and white films I made have a high chance of being coloured, which I think is obscene. It's all sending me back to my desk. I think, and I would love to die having written one really great novel."

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Advertisement for EMI Music International. It features a large image of a man in a suit with his arms outstretched. Text includes: 'Spring 1987 Subscription season: Now booking', 'flexible schemes and big savings for Tosca, Faust, Akhnaten, Simon Boccanegra, Don Giovanni, The Stone Guest, Orpheus in the Underworld, Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk, Carmen', and 'Phone 01-836 2699 for leaflet'. At the bottom, it says 'Bookings by post only' and 'EMI Music International, London Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2'.

Advertisement for the opera 'The RAPE of LUCRETIA' at the English National Opera. It features a large image of a woman in a white dress. Text includes: 'TONIGHT at 7.30 then Nov 22, 26 Dec 4 only', 'Graham Vick's acclaimed production of BENJAMIN BRITTEN'S', 'The RAPE of LUCRETIA', 'sensuously beautiful music' (The Guardian), 'a stunningly potent Lucretia' (The Independent), 'tickets should be snapped up' (The Times), 'immensely distinguished musically, dramatically, visually and almost unbearably moving' (Standard), 'a production of stature that ought not to be missed' (Daily Telegraph). Cast: Joan Rigby, Russell Smythe, Anthony Rolfe Johnson, Richard Van Allan, Kathryn Harries, Alan Ople, Anne-Marie Owens, Cathryn Pope. Conductor: Lionel Friend, Designer: Russell Craig, Lighting: Matthew Richardson. Standby: £7.50 from 6.45pm. English National Opera, London Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2.

SPECTRUM

Galvanizing youth to rob Roy

Tom Kidd

On the last Sunday of every month Roy Jenkins sits down in his 'poker, wee flat' in Glasgow with three people young enough to be his grandchildren.

The three are Charlotte Beattie, aged 18, welfare officer on Glasgow University's Student Representative Council; Claire Barclay, aged 20, its vice-president; and Stephen Gallagher, 19, chairman of the university's Social Democratic Association.

There are 7,300 such voters in Hillhead, a constituency with an electorate of 57,016. In percentage terms this is below the national average.

Hence if Brian Cooklin, the current Conservative candidate, can win the youth vote he stands a chance of winning the seat, while the Labour candidate, George Galloway, needs to poll only some of them in order to threaten

Young people in Glasgow Hillhead could settle the fate of Roy Jenkins at the next election. Toby Young and Roland Rudd went to see how the parties are wooing a segment of this huge new national force

Jenkins. Clearly, then, in Hillhead the youth vote is crucial to the fortunes of the former SDP leader. In other words, of course, Hillhead is a far from typical constituency.

However, Hillhead does incorporate a high proportion of students. The distribution of votes between the candidates does not reflect the national average - it is one of only seven constituencies held by the SDP.

Jenkins, the sitting MP, is not the only candidate to take Hillhead's young voters seriously. The constituency appears on the

National Organisation of Labour Students' 'hit list' of 32 seats in which the number of students is greater than the gap between the incumbent MP and the Labour candidate at the last election.

The 32-year-old Galloway spends a lot of time at the left-dominated Queen Margaret Union, particularly in the 'Biko Bar'. He also tours Glasgow's pubs talking to unemployed school leavers in the constituency, something Jenkins prefers to do during his habitual 'walkabouts'.

been building up his links with the university. He has approached Peter Conkey, until recently the head of the University Conservative Club, and arranged to attend various debates.

Despite Cooklin's efforts the overwhelming consensus is that, when it comes to Hillhead's 18 to 24-year-old voters, it is a two-horse race. Of the 3,800 18 to 24-year-olds who are not at the university, most are either blue-collar Labour voters or unemployed, and among the undergraduates the Tories have been unpopular since cutting the student grant.

The race for the youth vote in Hillhead, then, is between Jenkins and Galloway. It comes down to this: will these young Glaswegians opt for the respectable elder statesman or the ambitious - and as yet untried - younger man? "Glasgow cannot afford to be a retirement home for grand old politicians," Galloway told a student newspaper recently.



University challenge: Jenkins aide Charlotte Beattie, 18, aims to get the campus behind the Alliance

Jobs are a major issue with Hillhead's non-student young - bad news for both Tories and Alliance

Steven Carroll left school at 16 with no qualifications to speak of. "I worked for Trash Can (a refuse collection service in Hillhead) for three weeks but I got laid off. They said I wasn't working hard enough."

"I don't want to go on YTS again. Not now it's two-year. I just don't see the point. The money's the same as the dole." Steven, like most of his friends, will be voting Labour. He doesn't know who the candidate is, just as he doesn't know who his MP is.

The main sources of employment in Hillhead are the Albion Motor Company, the Narrow shipyard, and education. The first two take on barely any school-leavers, and the last requires qualifications people like Steven simply don't have.



Grim harvest: unemployed Steven Carroll, 17, "has heard Labour will be getting the jobs in"

gown, Hillhead is relatively affluent, and unemployment among young people is below the Glasgow average.

It was lower still before the 1983 boundary changes when the constituency was enlarged to include Partick and Arderton, mainly working-class districts. Consequently Roy Jenkins suffered a reduced majority. Of the 3,800 18 to 24-year-olds who are not at the university, a majority will probably vote Labour.

"I don't intend to vote at all," says Ian McFarlane. At 22 he has got a job with a firm of solicitors. On Sundays he coaches the Glasgow Lions American football team. He is the nearest Hillhead is likely to come to a Yuppy - a natural Alliance voter.

Though the Alliance fares badly among Hillhead's non-student young voters, the Conservatives do even worse. One reason for this is the hostility towards the Anglo-Irish Agreement. There is a large Protestant community in the constituency which enjoys extensive links with Ulster.

Student politics in Glasgow, Samantha Fox aside, is serious business. Who will win on the campus?

In March George Galloway was asked by Liam Ewing, the President of Glasgow University Labour Club, to ask Winnie Mandela if she would be Labour's candidate at the university's Rectorial elections.

The Rectorial elections, like all student politics, have their whacky side. But when it comes to the constituency elections, the students take themselves more seriously. "I met Roy Jenkins once in the House of Commons," says Finlay Smith, a fifth year student.

Galloway is always here.

Galloway already has close links with the students. The University Labour Club is one of the largest in the country. At a recent meeting addressed by Galloway and Labour Industry spokesman John Smith, more than 150 Labour students attended, unusually large for such an event.

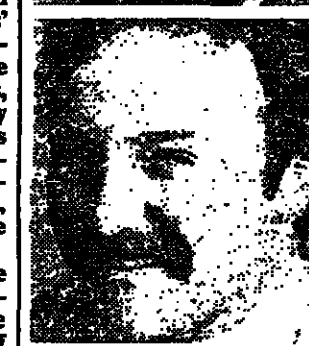
Despite Galloway's efforts the SDP is far from unpopular. The university's main political forum, the Students' Representative Council, is currently in the hands of the Alliance. Moreover, Jenkins, as the MP, has an opportunity to hear student complaints about grants and accommodation during his weekly surgeries on campus.

Perhaps the best indication of just how seriously the students take all this are the efforts of each candidate's university supporters to get their friends to obtain "digs" in Hillhead. That way they get on to the electoral register in time for the next election. Consequently, the number of students in the constituency is increasing all the time.

CANDIDATES



Roy Jenkins, SDP/Liberal Alliance: Aged 66, former Labour minister. Founder member of SDP. MP for Hillhead since 1982.



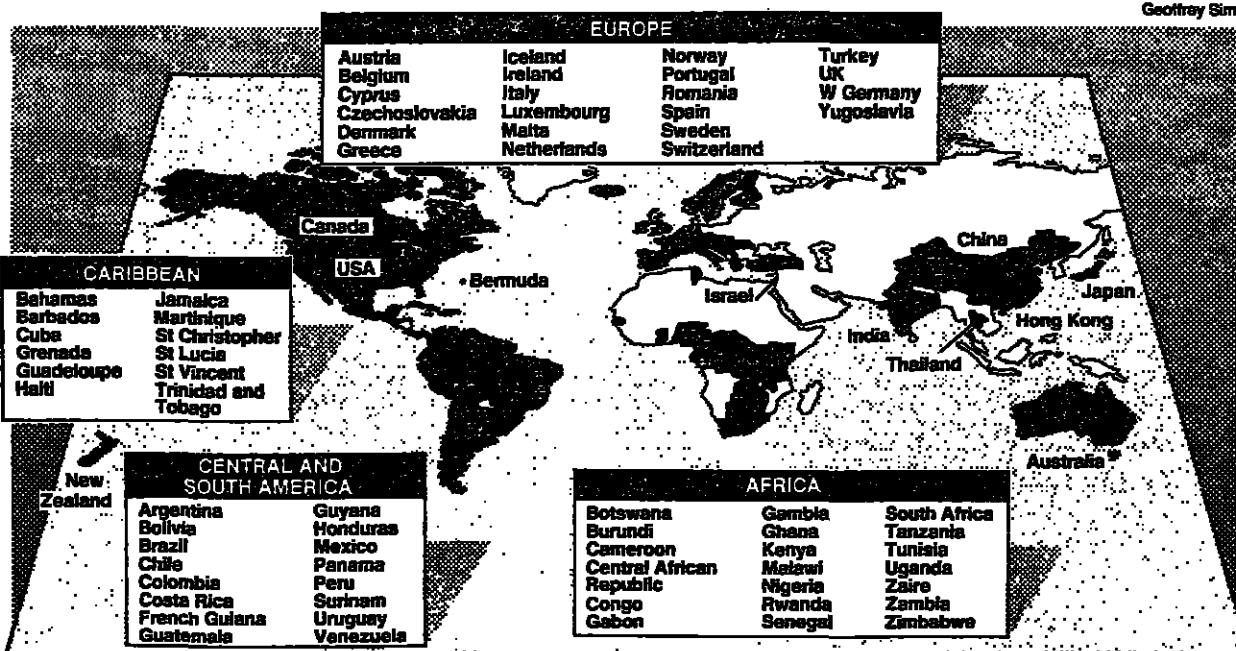
George Galloway, Labour: Aged 32, general secretary of War on Want for the past three years.



Brian Cooklin, Conservative: Aged 32, only candidate living permanently in Hillhead. Teaches at local school. "I've witnessed first hand many of the problems associated with being young in Hillhead. I'm particularly concerned about drug addiction. I've participated in various university debates. I believe that Scottish universities should come under Scottish control."

Aids: a world with no hiding place

In New York, one person in 250 is a carrier. In Germany, the number of cases doubles every eight months. How is the world fighting what may become the worst epidemic in history?



Aids is threatening millions of lives in more than a hundred countries. But while international experts call for emergency action on an unprecedented scale, many nations seem unwilling - or unable - to face up to what may already be the greatest threat to health in history.

The disease is now killing hundreds of men, women and children every day. In the US alone, where 15,000 have already died, the toll is expected to reach almost 180,000 by 1991.

How is the world fighting what may become the worst epidemic in history? The US government is being urged to contribute towards a further billion dollars a year required for education and public health measures.

UNITED STATES Population 240 million. The cost of combating Aids is expected to reach \$2 billion (£1.4 billion) a year by the end of the decade.

FRANCE Population 55 million. A total of 1,050 cases, including 466 people who have died, have been recorded since 1982.

WEST GERMANY Population 60 million. The West German government has spent DM12 million (£4.2 million) on research into the Aids virus.

ITALY Population 57 million. The government has resisted pressure to define Aids as an epidemic, despite 345 known cases and predictions of up to 10,000 in the next five years.

UNITED KINGDOM Population 58.4 million. Britain has had 548 Aids cases, including 278 deaths. At least 4,500 others are known carriers.

SOUTH AFRICA Population 32 million. So far 43 cases have been recorded, including nine people from other African countries and there have been 29 deaths.

AUSTRALIA Population 15.8 million. Aids education and research funding has been increased this year from A\$9.2 million (£4.1 million) to A\$11 million (£5.5 million).

JAPAN Population 120 million. Medical research on Aids has a budget of 900 million yen (£3.9 million). Japan has 21 recorded cases, including 13 deaths.

BRAZIL Population 125 million. Worst-hit nation in South America with 841 known cases and 420 deaths, with 8,000 cases predicted in the next few years.

CONCISE CROSSWORD No. 1110

A crossword puzzle grid with clues for across and down words. The grid is partially filled with letters. Clues include 'Destructive force (8)', 'Adverse criticism (4)', 'Sympathetic relationship (7)', 'Rambler (5)', 'Expand (5)', 'School leave (5)', 'Larix (5)', 'Lucifer (5)', 'Globe (5)', 'Wants (5)', 'Strict vegetarian (5)', 'Distress greatly (7)', 'Tranquillity exercises (4)', 'Favourable (8)', 'Admirable quality (6)', 'Country (8)', 'Individual self (3)', 'Henry VIII's sixth wife (9,4)', 'Admirer (4)', 'German cherry', 'brandy (6)', 'Shoals (8)', 'Impressive (8)', 'Lofty (8)', 'Inspection (6)', 'Nimble (6)', 'Very curious (4)', 'Enemy (3)'.

SOLUTIONS TO NO 1109. ACROSS: 1 Jaguar 5 Patchy 8 Eel 9 Possum 10 Aspire 11 Gale 12 Vanisher 14 Catholic Bitch 17 Verderer 19 Unco 21 Airway 23 Sequin 24 Ace 25 Hyman 26 Yesman. DOWN: 2 Agora 3 Unscathed 4 Removal 5 Plain 6 Top 7 Harvest 13 Status quo 15 Amenity 16 Curse 18 Royal 20 Chariot 22 Wan.

Swinging Sixties advertisement for Motor cars. It features a stylized illustration of a classic car and text promoting 'pull-out supplements on the great British cars of the 'sixties'. The Motor logo is prominently displayed at the bottom.

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom of the page.

WEDNESDAY PAGE

Fathers seem to be regarded by the abortion laws as breeding bulls that have no legal connection with their offspring

Like many women who have always wanted children but can't have them, I take a morbid interest in family issues. It is the curiosity of the parent manque.

Robert, this idea did not appeal to Vivian. She ended the pregnancy. This ought to have been the end of the matter.

feel that the baby is half mine," he said. "All I am asking her to do is to have it painlessly delivered and then hand it over to me to be brought up in the bosom of a huge, loving family."



And this foetus - this unborn child - has a father.

making abortion subject to the decisions of two people," she says. "It takes away the woman's right over her own body again."

than breeding bulls that have no legal connection with their offspring - except when it comes to support. Interestingly, the support question isn't one to which women's rights groups give much heed, but I fear it is one we shall all have to face if we want to see real equality.

solution when faced with two women each claiming to be the mother of the same child. Solomon, you may recall, offered to cut the child in half and give each woman her share.

Barbara Amiel

High society and the hotel room

Sydney Biddle Barrows will be known for the rest of her life as the Mayflower Madam. Her autobiography, published this week, tells of a blue blood, descended directly from one of the pioneering families who sailed to America on the Mayflower.

The girls were all hand-picked; the madam was blue-blooded; the case created a scandal. Josephine Fairley investigates

talks to you for two or three hours? You go to bed with him and walk away with \$1,000 in your handbag. Heavens, there are girls all over the world who do it for a hamburger and an evening at the movies...



Call me madam: but Sydney Biddle Barrows refused to name the names of those who did

up to get married and who are now terrified of losing their meal tickets. Yet they're precisely the ones whose husbands were calling me. But I can't imagine why they feel threatened; women have this bizarre fantasy that sex is so important to men they'd leave someone they love for it.

there in garbage bags, and there must be some very well-dressed cops' wives walking around in New York.

show and is discussing her own line of ready-to-wear clothes. "But what I'd love to do, most of all, is to run a finishing school for corporations, grooming executives. First impressions are so important yet plenty of people in this country don't even know how to shake hands properly," she explains.

BRIEFLY

A round-up of news, views and information

Computer crisis line

As computers play an increasingly important part in even the smallest of offices, more and more women are being asked to take on the responsibility of mastering complex systems.

Teenyfax

The personal ring-binder system of pegs for notes, addresses, maps and trivia to which many otherwise sensible adults have become enslaved, is now set to organize the lives of their children.

Pain partners

Dealing with psoriasis is a painful problem that Dennis Potter's Singing Detective shares with millions. The skin complaint, from which Potter himself suffers, can

strike at any age, often with debilitating results. But both psoriasis and eczema - which between them affect 4 per cent of the world's population - can be greatly relieved by self-help measures.

Parent power

"Dear Miss Manners, Would you discuss the etiquette of kissing parents doing so upon the forehead, cheeks, etc?"

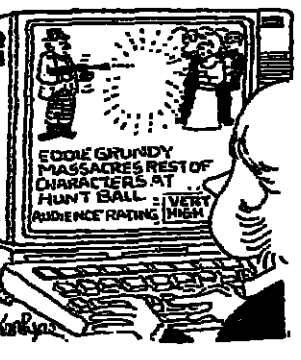
Quote me...



"Although there is less of the 'Me Tarzan, You Jane' about the Klans, we are being ruled by couples and it's really revolting" - Germaine Greer.

Once upon a floppy disc

I am Jack Woolley, owner of Grey Gables country club, and I have just been through a series of agonizing decisions about my dog, Captain.



able to get to a definition of it is "interactive soap". I push another button, more or less at random, and find my Peggy Archer sub-plot rudely interrupted by a stern memo from the Controller of Radio Four (code name CR4) saying: "You are not making my life easy. The British Veterinary Association is demanding an apology. Pull your socks up."

Here the script-writers appear to be going even further off the rails: every choice is more disastrous than the last, and an innocent sequence of button-pushing has involved me in a plot with complaints from NUPE about voluntary workers in hospitals, and another stern memo from CR4.

A child's last resort?

From Wendy Titman, Co-Director, Kidscape, London W1

TALKBACK

Children's safety is dependent upon responsible adults listening to, believing and helping children. The Kidscape approach, which we call "Good Sense Defence", informs and enables children and those adults who care for them to work together to keep safe.

Teaching Children To Complain

The proposal to provide a facility for children, with separate rooms linked by video to the courtroom, merits debate: there are doubtless arguments to be weighed up against the obvious benefit for the child who is spared the trauma of facing an assailant.

AUTUMN PROMOTION NOW ON. ENDS DECEMBER 15TH.

Advertisement for Multiyork upholstery featuring images of furniture and text: "We can supply replacement covers for any time. TRADITIONAL UPHOLSTERY DIRECT FROM THE MAKER."

Advertisement for Cubes from £6, featuring an image of a cube and text: "Design Centre selected storage cubes to wardrobe, shelving to kitchen, ideal for home, business, office, school, hospital, etc."

Advertisement for Libby Purves, featuring text: "I have upped the audience by another million within minutes, with a wild nude party in the swimming pool and the sacking of a drunken gardener called Higgs. So I am promoted to following the career of Elizabeth Archer, 19-year-old femme fatale, the daughter of Phil and Jill of Brookfield Farm."

Advertisement for a child's last resort, featuring text: "From John Hadjipateras, Londwdes Square, London SW1. How sad it is to read Barbara Amiel's generally dismissive

Advertisement for a child's last resort, featuring text: "From Mrs Anne Shells, Wellow, nr Bath. Barbara Amiel's article makes no positive statements at all. What would she do about child abuse?"

THE TIMES DIARY

Lloyd's snub

There was a glaring omission from the guest list at yesterday's opening of the new Lloyd's building in the City, attended by the Queen. While 5,000 dignitaries drank the insurers' champagne over a lavish buffet lunch, the man who until March was its chief executive, Ian Hay Davison, toiled behind his desk at accountants Arthur Andersen's. "I wasn't invited," he told me glumly. Last night Lloyd's was unable to explain why it had snubbed the man brought in three years ago by the Bank of England after a spate of scandals at the organization. City-watchers left to guess at the reasons may well look to Mr. Davison's resignation announcement warning at what he saw as threats to the role and independence of the chief executive. They are also likely to observe, wryly, that it was Mr. Davison's efforts over three years to polish the tarnished image of Lloyd's that made yesterday's swish ceremony possible.

MP's snip

Eastern Europe has suddenly found a place in the heart of Robert Adley, the bellicose anti-Russian Tory MP. He has just returned from Budapest with two suits run up by a tailor there for a fraction of Savile Row prices. "You would never know they were made in Hungary," he purrs. The British Menswear Guild does not take the matter lightly, however. "After all, the Tories do support the Multi-Fibre Arrangement to give a semblance of justice to the textile industry against unfair competition," a spokeswoman fumed. Adley, undaunted, claims he is helping British exports — by taking his own cloth to be snipped by Hungarian hands.

John Menzies, the newsagent, has found a niche for himself in the British Rail timetable at his Templemeads station branch in Bristol. They're displayed under "Humour books".

In the cart

Anna McCurley, Tory MP for Renfrew West, tells me she has had cause to mellow her opinion of local councils' direct labour forces. Rushing from Glasgow airport this week to a meeting, her car ran out of petrol. Within moments she was spotted by the crew of a corporation dustcart who invited her on board, took her to a garage for petrol and then back to her car. "They even poured it into the tank. They were the knights of the road," she says. And no, she did not have the courage to tell the binmen who she was — or her views on privatizing council services.

BARRY FANTONI



'Pass! The riot's in Cell Block Four. Pass it on...'

Smack

Gerald Howarth, one of the two Tory MPs labelled by Panorama, is evidently not one to forgive and forget. No fewer than 31 MPs of all parties have signed a Commons early-day motion warmly congratulating BBC's Grange Hill on its campaign against drug abuse. There is but a single dissenting voice. An amendment tabled by Howarth suggests that the Beeb could have performed "a better service to the battle against drug abuse by refraining from showing on the programme scenes of children suffering from drugs".

"A great personality, a great orchestra, a great evening out — HURRY!" The Northern Sinfonia, whose press release plugging a "celebrity" concert is thus headed, is clearly becoming over-excited about its greatest conductor. And who is this great personality wielding the baton on November 27? Edward Heath.

Political lessons

The tussle over the future grammar status of Tiffin School and Tiffin Girls' School at Kingston-upon-Thames has its ironies. When the motion to abandon 11-plus selection to these highly academic schools was put before the council last week, a Tory councillor, Paul Clokic, pleaded vested interest and abstained — allowing the proposal to scrape through by a single vote. His reason? His marriage last year to Hilary Nicolle, headmistress of Tiffin Girls' School. Ratification of the decision now rests with the Education Secretary, Kenneth Baker. He could seek the advice of his minister of state, Angela Rumbold. She stood for Kingston council in 1974, alongside Clokic, on an "abolish the 11-plus" platform. Mr Clokic pleads: "We were against the 11-plus but not against grammar schools."

Reagan loses his invincibility

Washington The Teflon has been scratched. To America's amazement the aura of invincibility surrounding President Reagan has been badly damaged by the Iran fiasco. All of a sudden his foreign policy — elevated only eight months ago almost to the level of a new doctrine — appears to be unraveling. There is a growing conviction here that the patient executor of that policy, George Shultz, has had enough and will, sooner or later, resign. Early next year, according to friends and associates, he will be gone. Reagan, ever loyal to his staff, has insisted that he will not fire anyone. A search for scapegoats in the White House itself may not go far. It has long been known that the president's kitchen cabinet consisted of men with little experience in foreign affairs. It was the president who took the credit when America was standing tall. And it is he who must now squarely accept the blame for the series of setbacks that have befallen him. There is an uncomfortable new twist to the old taunt, "Who lost Iran?"

Within the space of six weeks the administration has suffered five major foreign policy setbacks: the disinformation campaign on Libya, with all the questions of White House credibility; the

Michael Binyon on how the Iran affair has suddenly dimmed the president's aura

Deniloff affair, ending, despite denials, in a swap with a Soviet spy, the apparent readiness at Reykjavik to scrap all nuclear weapons within 10 years; the capture of an American mercenary in Nicaragua; and now Iran. Critics, releasing their pent-up frustrations, are now adding earlier incidents: the European gas pipeline sanctions, the mining of Nicaraguan harbours, the botch of Bitburg, the debacle of Lebanon, the instant creation of Star Wars. One critic wrote: "You could almost call it a White House compulsion to disregard the full resources of government in decision-making; to affront Congress by violating the spirit, if not the letter, of its laws; to take action in the face of deep internal divisions; to offend one or another key branch of the government; to pick needless fights with valued allies."

In all former crises President Reagan was able with charm, oratory, political muscle and dogged diplomacy at the State Department to repair the damage. Even after Reykjavik, the extraordinary concerted attempt to turn what appeared a disaster into what was called a near-triumph succeeded — at least for a while.

The president, fully believing his own interpretation, was cheered on the campaign trail when he spoke of the "successes of Iceland". Opinion polls showed widespread support. In Congress the aura of invincibility enabled him to defeat challenges to his foreign policy; on the arms sales to Saudi Arabia and the Contras; the House amendments tying his hands on arms control. Only over South Africa has he been defeated. But over Iran, everything seems to have deserted him. Congress has felt slighted; even Reagan's conservative supporters there are talking of a "major mistake". His oratory fell far short of his normal persuasiveness last week, and his televised address was perceived as evasive, hesitant, disingenuous and self-justifying. He did not, people said, take the American people into his confidence.

The latest poll in the Los Angeles Times found that more than 40 per cent of those questioned said several of Reagan's statements had been only "technically true". More damagingly to a man who has built so much on his moral authority, 25 per cent said his statements had been

"essentially false". About one in five believed that his explanations of his dealing with Iran were "essentially true".

This could not have come at a worse time for both the president and the Republicans. For Reagan is still smarting from the unexpectedly severe losses in the mid-term elections. He is now obliged to defer more to a revived opposition in Congress.

The Reagan revolution has slowed at home. Abroad, Reagan Doctrine now looks stillborn. It will be hard for the president, anxious to leave his mark on history in his remaining two years in office, to notch up achievements in those vital areas where he has suffered the setbacks: the Middle East, arms control, relations with Russia, the fight against terrorism.

Other presidents have suffered setbacks in their final two years. And most people expect that Reagan will recover from the Iran affair. But it is the cumulation of recent failures that is raising questions — about his judgement, his advisers, his instincts.

"The Gipper", as he is affectionately known, may have lost too many battles to lose the winning streak. Already the cynics are proclaiming the end of the Reagan era. "Gipperdammerung", they call it.

Stephen Segaller explores the background of France's hard-left killers

One of the most disturbing developments during the 1980s has been the emergence of an alliance between previously separate terrorist organizations throughout western Europe. This alliance, involving French, German and Belgian groups, with sporadic parallel action from Portuguese, Spanish, Italian and Dutch organizations, is pledged to attack government, quasi-government, international agencies and business targets.

The terrorists' targets are decided by their anti-American, anti-business, anti-military, anti-nuclear, anti-Nato politics. The prime mover of this alliance appears to be the French revolutionary group Action Directe, which yesterday claimed responsibility for the brutal killing of the managing director of Renault, Georges Besse.

Action Directe is a second-generation European terrorist group. Its roots do not lie in the revolutionary fervour that accompanied the May 1968 upheavals, but it nonetheless shares the same violent political tradition. Since it was first heard of in 1979, it has had only one leader, Jean-Marc Rouillan, who has shown an opportunistic willingness to espouse political causes or marginalized minorities, primarily to keep the group alive. Since 1984, however, its ideology has crystallized into a jargon-ridden Marxist-Leninism.

Despite Rouillan's orchestration of a series of brutal assaults on military, commercial and political targets, the French capacity for romanticizing the most dangerous and daring of criminals has created about him the myth of an intelligent, cultivated art-lover, half paranoid and half megalomaniac, who never takes off his bulletproof vest.

The reality is far more sober. Born in 1953 in Auch in southwest France, Rouillan was a student at Toulouse, where he became involved in anti-Franco protest groups in the early 1970s. He allegedly took part in cross-border "missions" to strike at Spanish targets, and was involved in some assaults on Spanish interests in France.

He was arrested in 1974 and imprisoned for three years; re-arrested in 1979 and imprisoned for another six months, and shortly thereafter founded Action Directe.

According to one of Rouillan's former associates, the establishment of Action Directe cannot be understood outside the wider political context of the radical left in France. Rouillan's associate maintains that the radical left had always worked on the assumption that the Socialists would never gain power by election.

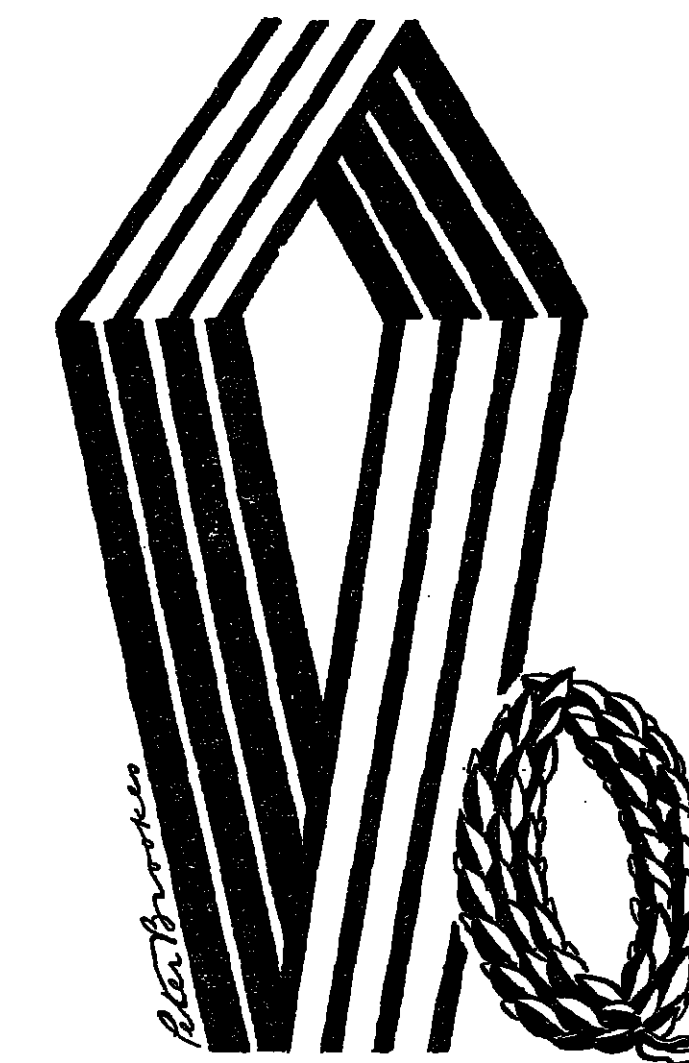
And the hard left always believed that even if the Socialists did come to power, as Francois Mitterrand did in 1981, they would fail to carry out a radical programme. It was this doubt that pushed the hard-core radicals towards military force and clandestine activity. The founders of Action Directe believed that those radicals who stuck to the middle ground of legality were condemned to impotence, while the "real" activists would be left to fight the "real" battles.

I am confused about these squadrons of White Knights that gallop around the City and financial pages, never once falling off their horses. For example, from an old Guardian: "Thomas Tilling emerged yesterday as the White Knight appointed by Berec to save the Ever Ready battery-maker from the clutches of Hanson Trust."

A White Knight seems to be Stock Exchange slang for a hero or champion, in particular a company that comes to the aid of one facing an unwelcome takeover bid. But the use is extended to mean good guys generally. For example, from The Times: "The Italian Communist Party will take its members into the regional election campaign next month as White Knights dealing with the joint evils of corruption and reaction."

I think that this increasingly fashionable cliché is at best illiterate, and at worst misleading. What its users have in mind is the hackneyed phrase "a knight in shining armour". But a White

RENAULT



Action Directe, ideologues of violence

But the founders of the movement confronted a major problem. If a Socialist government were to monopolize and legitimize all the major issues of the day, what was left for the hard-core radical?

Action Directe developed from an absence of debate on the issues where they chose their targets, Nato installations, international monetary systems, symbols of American capitalism and prominent international corporate leaders. Rouillan scorned the normal channels of public debate and criticism, and maintained that the only genuine course of action open for a revolutionary was literally direct action.

The theory was at once crude and effective. In essence it runs as follows. First you act, then you consider was it well or badly done? How was the action received by the people?

An analogy is then drawn between terrorism and the media.

The Action Directe activist believes that terrorism represents the same approach to political problems — arbitrary, dramatic and sensational — that the media adopt in relation to "facts". The real power is thought to lie not with the participants in a given event, but with the editor who has the power to emphasize coverage, write headlines and change meanings.

For ideologues of the extreme left such as Rouillan, violence in itself is not an issue: the world is full of it, they say. The only interesting question, they believe, is what effect it has. According to their extremist logic, an act of violence committed by a member of Action Directe is utterly insignificant alongside the violence inherent in war, state terror, hunger, drought and disease; industry and commerce.

Action Directe became operationally viable as a clandestine

organization following a robbery in the northern French town of Combray-les-Grands in 1979, when they stole about 16 million francs at gunpoint. At the time there was considerable evidence that this act of "proletarian expropriation" conducted on behalf of the "whole revolutionary movement" had been carried out with international assistance from Spanish and Italian terrorist groups.

International collaboration of this kind is not monolithic. Rather, it is essentially ad hoc, designed to offer manual assistance in obtaining and distributing stolen arms, providing passports, identity papers, escape routes and places of safe hiding. It also lends a thin plausibility to the movement's pretensions of proletarian internationalism.

The "proletarian expropriation" of 16 million francs enabled Action Directe to obtain weapons that were used in 20 or more attacks on French government and business targets during the following year. As a result of an extensive police investigation Rouillan was eventually captured in September 1980, and most of the organization's principal leadership had been rounded up by the end of the year.

But in May the following year, after the traditional but controversial practice of incoming presidents, Mitterrand declared an amnesty for several thousand prisoners whose crimes supposedly had a political element. To the amazement of the French public, Rouillan and other leading members of Action Directe were freed.

In March 1982 Action Directe published its political manifesto, Pour un projet communiste. As a literary work it has no merit, consisting of indigestible Marxist-Leninist jargon. But its critique of world capitalism, and the particular examples singled out for vitriolic abuse, suggest who their new targets were likely to be.

The wave of terrorism that followed was too much, even for Mitterrand, whose amnesty was seen by many as at least partly responsible for the bloodshed. He went on national television to announce the setting up of anti-terrorist forces, the appointment of a Minister for Public Security and the proscription of Action Directe.

Action Directe nevertheless continued to expand its base of activists, domestically and internationally, and embarked on a new round of robberies and murders. By 1984 the various components of the European terrorist alliance had begun to wage an all-out campaign of violence against the military-industrial targets identified in their published political tracts.

The death of Georges Besse thus follows in a long line of assassinations and acts of violence against those targets which the terrorists see as the oppressors of the proletariat and the upholders of the corrupt and exploitative capitalist state.

Extracted from Invisible Armies: Terrorism into the 1990s (Michael Joseph, £15.95).

Sir Lunchalot

Philip Howard: new words for old

Knight brings irresistibly to the mind of anybody who has read Lewis Carroll (which means pretty well everybody) a quite different sort of figure. Come on, you remember the White Knight. An enthusiastic but bumbling old fool. Always falling off his horse. Ineffectual, very. Always inventing things like boxes for keeping clothes and sandwiches in, which he carries upside-down so that the rain can't get in. Sandwiches and clothes all fall out, of course. Sings that haunting song about an aged, aged man sitting on a gate:

Whose look was mild, whose speech was slow, Whose hair was whiter than the snow, Whose face was very like a crow...

It is fine Nonsense Verse. I think Tennyson echoed its rhythm and rhyme in his poem about Catullus, "Tendrest of Roman poets nineteen hundred years." Be that as it may, if the White Knight we know and love were to come to the help of a company, prudent shareholders and directors would get out at once, and emigrate if they had any sense.

Protesting about the ambivalence of White Knights is more than an itch to verify one's literary references. It is potentially confusing, because White Knight is also used in its endearingly doty sense. "I believe I have made a really significant discovery," cried Dr Outerly with the infuriated gleam of a White Knight; Ngagio Marsh in Off With His Head.

And this from The New York Times: "The Rangers' clubhouse stemmed from the habit that the team's general manager had of hiring ineffectual cronies to coach the club, and then replacing them with himself when they failed — a kind of White Knight compulsion." Those New York jokes are better-read and more careful with their slang than our stockbrokers' surprise, surprise.

Americans, who have no medieval knights in armour in their native history, have their own metaphor of approval for good guys: White Hat. This comes from the native American art form of Western movies, in which, symbolically, heroes wear white hats and villains wear black.

The Washington establishment differentiated, particularly the Nixon administration, between White Hats and Black Hats. The original Americans, the Apache and the Indians, described anybody of Caucasian origin as White Eyes; but I do not think they meant it as a compliment.

Stephen Plowden Wishful thinking costs lives

There is no mystery about the cause of motorcycle accidents. Most motorcycles are ridden, often recklessly, by exuberant young men. The way to prevent motorcycle accidents is to limit the power of the machines and the right to ride one.

Only 1 per cent of journeys are made by motorcycles but 25 per cent of fatal and serious road casualties occur in accidents in which they are involved. In 1984, more than 1,100 people were killed in such accidents and more than 59,000 injured, 18,000 of them seriously. These figures do not include mopeds.

Statistics supporting stiffer regulation have existed for a long time. Official studies carried out in 1958 showed that the rate of involvement in fatal and serious accidents for male motorcyclists fell steadily until the age of 50. Within each separate age group, it rose sharply with the power of the machine. For example, the rates per million miles travelled for men aged 40 to 49 (the safest age group) were as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Power range, Rate per million miles. Rows: Up to 60cc (0.9), 61-150cc (1.8), 151-250cc (2.7), 251-350cc (2.9), Over 350cc (7.9)

More recent evidence confirms that high accident rates continue to be associated with youth, inexperience and powerful machines.

The Department of Transport is unwilling to accept these unremarkable findings. Instead, it has based its strategy on persuading young motorcyclists to undergo training. Financial support to training schemes has been offered since 1961 and moral support for even longer. The department has encouraged a rapid expansion of training centres, of which there are now nearly 1,000, and also training schools.

There are no statistical grounds to justify this concentration on training. A study conducted for the department at Salford University between 1971 and 1977 showed that trained motorcyclists had significantly higher accident rates than the control group. Studies in other countries have also failed to reveal any beneficial effect of training.

The Salford findings were ignored on the grounds that they were contrary to expert opinion and common sense. The department's paper Safer Motorcycling, recently issued for consultation, says:

"It may not be easy to demonstrate by objective research that motorcyclists benefit from training, any more than we can show that car drivers do. But common sense is nothing else suggests that with any skilled operation — the ability to take charge of a vehicle, whether on two wheels or four, will be developed more effectively and more quickly if the

rider or driver receives systematic tuition... This "common sense" view depends on the idea that accidents are caused by a lack of handling skills. No doubt some are, and there must be many learner motorcyclists who have benefited from training. But a short training course can do little to counter the lethal combination of riders who enjoy taking risks and a machine that tempts them to do so.

The reason for clinging to the idea of training is the belief that measures that would restrict riders cannot be entertained. To quote the consultation paper again: "The government's aim can be summed up as being to preserve and enhance all the good things in motorcycling — the convenience, the fun, the excitement — and to cut out the bad — the appalling risks to life and limb, the thousands of deaths and serious injuries occurring every year in accidents involving motorcycles. It is hard to imagine that anyone would seriously quarrel with this as an objective."

What is missing is any sense of the government's responsibilities to third parties. Even when the only casualties in a motorcycle accident are the riders themselves, many other people are affected and the NHS picks up the bill. Thirty-two pedestrians a week are killed or injured by motorcycles; a young man on a motorcycle is eight times more likely to kill or injure a pedestrian than a young man in a car.

Here, then, is an outline programme:

- Restrict applications for a provisional motorcycle licence to people who have held a full licence for a moped or a car with a clean record for at least two years.
Limit the speed, power and weight of machines that even qualified riders may use to what is required for comfortable touring.
The maximum speed capability should be no more than the national speed limit; the engine size probably no more than 250 cc.
Restrict riders to low-powered "learner" machines for two years after passing the test. A licence to ride a larger machine would then depend on a further test: a conviction for a motoring offence would automatically lead to its withdrawal.
Reduce the need for motorcycle travel by improving the existing alternatives of cycling and public transport.
Create a new alternative by recognizing a new category of car, a local runabout, for which the licensing requirements would be no more stringent than for a moped and which, like a moped, would have a top speed of 30 mph.

Stephen Plowden was joint author with Mayer Hillman of Danger on the Road: The Needless Scourge, published in 1984 by the Policy Studies Institute.

moreover... Miles Kington Start the Week with Haw-Haw

There seem to be two profitable areas in showbiz at the moment: broadcasting nostalgia and harking back to World War II. By an extraordinary coincidence, I have been working on a play that combines both. It's a study of that famous Lord Haw-Haw, who over the years has been — in my opinion — too much viewed as a traitor and not enough as a professional radio man. He was in many ways just a BBC man who happened to be working on the other side — at any rate, that is the line I have taken in my new smash-hit play, Start the Week With Lord Haw-Haw.

The scene is a small German studio in 1944. Lord Haw-Haw is just finishing a broadcast. Haw-Haw: ... so what is the point of carrying on? Coventry lies in ashes — next week it could be Basingstoke or Harrogate. My friends, I advise you to bring the war to a close now. I will talk to you again at the same hour next time; till then, Sieg Heil!

The studio manager, Fritz, comes in. He starts clearing up the microphones. Haw-Haw: So, what did you think, Fritz? Fritz: It was fine. Haw-Haw: Not too... frantic? Fritz: No. No more frantic than usual.

Haw-Haw: Yes... You know, Fritz, I sometimes think we should change the whole feel of the programme. Get a quite different approach. Fritz: You mean, tell them that Germany is losing the war? Haw-Haw: No, no, don't be silly. I mean, we ought to change the format — after all, it's been the same sort of programme for three years now. Just me talking, I mean.

Fritz: You would like to sing in future? Haw-Haw: Oh, don't tell me you're in one of your moods. A biting studio manager is more than I can take... No, I mean, have a few guests in, perhaps. Or a bit of music. It's so doomy every week, me just saying that we're going to bomb somewhere or kill a few more of them. I thought, why not have someone on who's just written a book, or has a new film coming out?

Fritz: There aren't many new books or films coming out just at the moment in Germany. Haw-Haw: No, well, I can see that's a problem, but we could for

instance have Herr Goebbels on to talk about his latest propaganda, say. It would be quite a coup for the programme. Fritz: Hello, there, Herr Goebbels! I gather you've just written a book about how the Jews cause all the trouble in the world. Well, you've just killed off all the Jews and we still have as much trouble as we used to. How do you explain that? Haw-Haw: No, Fritz, that is not at all what I intended...

Fritz: Well, until you can think of an explanation, we'll listen to the Golden Brownshirts singing their rendition of...

Haw-Haw: Fritz! Please! Sometimes I think you do not take broadcasting seriously. For instance, you have never suggested the idea of having a phone-in section on my programme.

Fritz: Phone-in? What exactly...? Haw-Haw: Well, we ask listeners in England to phone up the radio station with their ideas on what I have been discussing. If enough people phone in, we could bankrupt Britain with the phone bills and win the war!

Fritz: I don't think there's much danger of that.

Haw-Haw: Of what? Fritz: Us winning the war. The position is hopeless. Even you must see that.

Haw-Haw: What do you mean — even me? Fritz: You are a typical broadcasting star. You really believe what you say. You believe you are important, so you believe your message is important as well. When the American and British armies come pouring across the frontier, you will be bothered about only one thing — getting a proper signature tune for the programme.

Haw-Haw: That is the most absolute... You're right, actually. The programme does need a good sig. tune. I think you've put your finger on it. By the way, I hope you are recording all these programmes.

Fritz: Why? Haw-Haw: Because one day there will be an anniversary, and they will want to repeat all my work.

Fritz: Even if the British win? Haw-Haw: If the British win? That is treachery! Fritz: Look who's talking, ducky. (The play continues for another two hours of typical in-house broadcasting chat, getting nowhere.)

Handwritten note: 10/14/86 1.50



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

TWO TO TANGO

Argentine officials have presented their government's initiative on the Falkland Islands as a "gesture of reconciliation and good will." It might equally be described as a diplomatic coup, timed to intensify Britain's isolation at the annual United Nations debate on the islands next Monday. President Alfonsín expected that this country would say "no". It is, in fact, the right response?

Argentina's offer to declare an end to hostilities in the South Atlantic is conditional and overdue. By studiously neglecting to do so before, Buenos Aires has justified a substantial British garrison on the islands and inhibited a return to peaceful politics.

In such circumstances, Britain's official reaction has up to now been scrupulously correct. While continuing to reject the Argentine claim to sovereignty, it has proposed talks aimed at resuming normal relations and, by reopening its ports to Argentine goods last year, has taken the initiative itself. By its offer to declare a formal end to hostilities "at the right time" and in the context of "global negotiations", Argentina is belatedly catching up with British policy.

Whitehall is right to be wary. The 1984 Berne talks broke down as soon as they began, when the Argentine delegation walked out. But by rejecting this week's initiative apparently out of hand, the Government could be committing a tactical error with important strategic implications.

Tactically it once more en-

sures this country's virtual isolation at the United Nations next week. That is not a vital matter in itself. But, as the years go by, the greater the number of UN decisions - on issues like human rights and terrorism - which depend on countries being for Britain rather than against. The splendour of isolation becomes tarnished by missed opportunities.

There are, moreover, sound reasons why Britain should want to start negotiations on the so-called "practical issues". Despite the optimism with which the Government has tried to inject new life into the Falklands economy, progress is depressingly slow. Clearly, if the islands are ever to flourish, they will do so only when links have been re-established with the South American mainland - which means, in effect, Argentina. Fish conservation, Anglo-Argentine trade and the expansion of British interests in Latin America as a whole help to explain why this country should not throw aside the chance of serious dialogue.

To enter into talks does not, of course, commit Britain to surrendering its position on sovereignty. It would be naive to pretend that this is not the subject which Argentines most want to raise. But for President Alfonsín it might just be enough, at this stage anyway, to start negotiations with an open agenda. Both sides might note that Britain is once more talking to the Spanish about Gibraltar without prejudice to the position of either power.

At some stage in the future

Britain will almost certainly have to address the issue of sovereignty over the Falklands. Previous negotiations reached a serious stage before being ended by back-bench fury at Westminster. Then came the 1982 Argentine invasion which not only poisoned relations between the two countries but made Falklanders themselves the more reluctant to contemplate any further contact with Buenos Aires.

The issue will not go away for ever. If it is to return, it is better to approach it gradually after a patient dialogue on other issues, than abruptly (at whatever distance in the future) after a change of Prime Minister in Britain.

The Government admits that those parts of the proposal which refer to some of the practical issues are - like those in the curate's egg - very good indeed. But there remains a suspicion that everything is linked to progress on sovereignty which, as the Prime Minister made clear yesterday, is not on the negotiating table.

So, is our presidency of the Council of Ministers, with its strong words and high hopes, to end with a bleak recital of the difficulties preventing agreement or have we an alternative? I believe that we have: 1. Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Transport, could set up a special "court" to ensure that British airlines stick to the EEC free competition rules. 2. The Commission could implement its threat of legal action; or, in my opinion best of all, 3. Mr Moore, prior to relinquishing the presidency at the end of the year could make a statement, as president, on the step-by-step advance proposed by him on the elimination of barriers to the internal market of the Community by 1992 and the full integration therein of air transport. Yours faithfully, BURTON OF COVENTRY, House of Lords, November 13.

SUNDAY TRADING AGAIN

The move by a group of Conservative backbenchers to renew the reform of Sunday trading laws is a welcome one. The present situation is as indefensible now as it was when the original Government bill was lost amid the fall-out of the Westland affair.

The arguments are the same too. Under existing law, you can be bought, but not dried milk. Chinese takeaway food is obtainable, but not fish and chips (unless it happens to be from a takeaway shop selling something else). A leather jacket may be bought if it qualifies as a motor-cycle accessory, but not as an item of clothing. And so on, and so on.

Not only is the law as it stands an ass, but whether it is enforced or not is entirely haphazard. Some local authorities tolerate opening by garden centres and other traders on Sundays; others make selective prosecutions, depending on the level of complaints.

Whether the compromise to which MPs have put their names in the Commons early day motion is a sensible one is much more doubtful. It seems very likely that a change in the law to allow garden centres and certain other shops connected with leisure activities, but not shops in general, to open on Sundays would only serve to introduce a whole lot of new anomalies. It could also be unfair to traders who sold both permitted goods and banned goods.

The Government hopes to escape criticism from its own supporters by giving support to a private member's bill. But it will not escape criticism if it encourages a measure that is quite impractical.

A better option, if sufficient support can be mustered for it, is to have another attempt at de-regulating all Sunday trading. Though the Government might have preferred to let this contentious subject lie fallow with an election not far over the horizon, it can hardly oppose a bill on the lines of its own failed legislation. Nor is it clear that such a bill would fail. The vote last April was a narrow one and probably occurred only because Government signals were misinterpreted.

Proponents of Sunday trading would, however, need to work hard to convince the doubters. The opposition has three main strands. First, there is the concern from the left that shop workers need to be protected from having to work on Sundays. This is in the same category as other well-meaning interventions in the labour market such as the minimum wage legislation designed to protect workers from being able to take the jobs they otherwise would. Better a job on Sunday than no job at all.

Secondly, there is the concern of those who think that the traditional English Sunday would never be the same again. Some may think that a wet British Sunday could often

do with some evening up. But the reality is that deregulation of Sunday trading would be most unlikely to make Sunday the same as any other day of the week.

In Scotland they have had Sunday trading for years and on average about one shop in seven stays open. For many people, moreover, the "endangered" family Sunday of roast beef followed by cricket on the village green, is utterly remote from their experience. This is no doubt partly why there has been a consistent majority in the opinion polls in favour of allowing Sunday opening. Nonetheless, as in Scotland, there would probably be strong regional variations reflecting the differing social traditions of rural and urban, affluent and less affluent areas.

Thirdly, there is the opposition of the Sabbatarians. At its most deeply held, this will not be diminished by any of the arguments about individual freedom or deregulation of markets. But a compromise - permitting trading during the afternoon but not during the morning - might reduce concern about church going as opposed to observance of the Sabbath.

It would be false to claim that the British Sunday would remain completely unchanged if such a reform were passed into law. It would be because, however, it would be because the British had changed first.

... WAS GREATLY EXAGGERATED

That a long-serving national leader can resurface alive and apparently well 24 hours after he has been reported assassinated says as much about the nature of North Korea as it does about the injudiciousness of speculation. Its political system, international isolation, and the particular opaqueness of its official communications mean that if Kim Il Sung were to have died, then the loudspeaker system along the frontier was as likely a purveyor of the news as the North Korean news agency.

Succeeding months will show whether the report of Kim's death was calculated disinformation - a genre in which both halves of the Korean peninsula specialise - or whether it was an early manifestation of impending political change in North Korea. The question for the present is why the rumour of assassination commanded such credence and persisted for so long, when it was capable of being refuted so simply.

The rumour commanded credence partly because information gleaned over many months suggests that Kim Il Sung's regime may be facing difficulties which

threaten his position as leader. North Korea's economy is stagnating. Long-standing allies are quietly making approaches to the South. And the designation of his unpopular son as heir to the party leadership is believed to have attracted opposition. The eventual fall of Kim did not seem so improbable that an assassination attempt, or at the very least a power struggle, could be ruled out.

The persistence of the assassination report for 24 hours reflects partly custom, partly geography. Closed societies like North Korea tend to counter rumour with formal denials. Perhaps they have learned that categorical denials only fuel speculation. The North Korean authorities had to produce hard evidence, but the clock militated against them.

By the time the report of Kim's assassination had reached Europe, the working day in Korea was over. As the rumour swept the United States, Korea slept. The turning world perpetuated the falsehood. As soon as Korea awoke, the refutation - in the form of television news pictures - was produced. For North Korea that was a response of unusual speed.

The speed of Pyongyang's response illustrates how seriously the reported assassination was taken there. It may even be interpreted, in a perverse way, as excessive protestation and thus further evidence that the days of Kim Il Sung are numbered. Such an interpretation should not, however, obscure the fact that the assassination report was false. It was believed, in the last analysis, not only because it appeared possible, but also because it made a good story and because much of the world wanted to believe it.

Such wishful thinking reflects a widespread hope for constructive change on the Korean peninsula. It also reflects the belief current in the West that Kim Il Sung presents an obstacle to such change. But wishful thinking is a poor substitute for realism in foreign policy.

If the mistaken credence given to the report of Kim's death serves to illustrate the dangers of such substitution, then it will have served as a useful warning. If it encourages Western countries to consider more closely and more realistically the possibilities of a post-Kim Korea, then the error could be positively beneficial.

Breaking mould on air fares

From Lady Burton of Coventry Sir, What more can we do about air fares in Europe after the failure of the recent talks (report, November 12)? Have we now reached the stage when legal proceedings must be used to break the deadlock? In the House on October 16 I was assured that the European Commission can take action independently of the Council of Ministers and that the British Government also can take action independently through article 88 of the Treaty of Rome.

The Commission wrote to 10 European airlines on July 10 concerning the liberalisation of air transport within the Community and asking for a reply within two months. The airlines asked for a two-month extension. It was granted and replies should have been handed for the meeting of transport ministers on November 10/11.

I gather that such was not the case. We are told that when eventually replies do arrive the Commission will "consider the position".

Sir, we cannot go on like this. The proceedings become a mockery. European air transport is in need of a radical overhaul. Faced with the fact that many airlines are preoccupied with an overriding concern to protect their state-owned airlines from competition we get nowhere.

So, is our presidency of the Council of Ministers, with its strong words and high hopes, to end with a bleak recital of the difficulties preventing agreement or have we an alternative? I believe that we have: 1. Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Transport, could set up a special "court" to ensure that British airlines stick to the EEC free competition rules. 2. The Commission could implement its threat of legal action; or, in my opinion best of all, 3. Mr Moore, prior to relinquishing the presidency at the end of the year could make a statement, as president, on the step-by-step advance proposed by him on the elimination of barriers to the internal market of the Community by 1992 and the full integration therein of air transport. Yours faithfully, BURTON OF COVENTRY, House of Lords, November 13.

US arms for Iran

From Prof Emeritus C. P. Beattie Sir, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness". So reads the Declaration of Independence. The supply of arms to Iran may have facilitated, directly or indirectly, the freeing of a few American nationals, but what of the hundreds, if not thousands, of other nationals who will be wounded or killed as a result? Yours faithfully, C. P. BEATTIE, 391a Fulwood Road, Sheffield, South Yorkshire.

From Air Commodore A. C. L. Mackie, RAF (ret)

Sir, Your leader today (November 17) makes much of the Prime Minister's having got as much assurance from the President as the needs about Trident. If the deterrent, of which Trident will be the main component, really is British and independent, why does he need an American assurance about it? And if that assurance obliges the Americans to keep nuclear weapons in being that they might otherwise get rid of by negotiation with the Soviet Union, why is she so satisfied? Yours faithfully, A. C. L. MACKIE (Ex-Services Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament), 4 Warwick Drive, SW15, November 17.

From Dr Michael Fisher

Sir, In your leading article today you refer to a communiqué from President Reagan and Mrs Thatcher as being "full of quid pro quo". In view of President Reagan's recent arrangements in the Middle East, surely the plural should be quids pro quo. Yours sincerely, MICHAEL FISHER, 43 Tetcott Road, SW10, November 17.

Reagan's influence

From Mr Marshall A. Phillips Sir, John O'Sullivan (feature, November 7) argued that the influence of President Reagan, barring some great convulsion, is likely to remain the status quo and that even the recent mid-term elections, in which the Democrats took control of the Senate, do not doom Reaganism. Mr O'Sullivan certainly is entitled to his opinion, but I would like to respectfully point out that President Reagan's personal popularity is one thing, his conservative agenda quite another. In election after election across America local personalities and issues dominated the debate, not Reaganism. Nowhere was this demonstrated more cogently than California, where the ultra-liberal Senator Alan Cranston was returned to the Senate despite President Reagan's three trips here to campaign personally for Cranston's Republican opponent. If the President of the United States cannot persuade his own home state, where he was once a popular governor, then something is amiss in his agenda.

Barriers to voluntary Aids tests on air fares

From Dr D. G. Cunningham and others Sir, Your leader of November 11 refers to the first meeting of Lord Whitelaw's Cabinet committee on Aids. You criticise this committee, the Government and its ministers for "over-emphasising" (sic) health education spending, and for encouraging safe-sex techniques, which you equate with condom usage.

We are surprised that you propose a programme of voluntary screening as a means of controlling the transmission of Aids. Our opinion is that it would at best have only a marginal effect. As is rightly stated, compulsory testing for antibodies to the virus would be impossible to enforce in our present society. Also, such a programme breaches many of the accepted WHO (World Health Organisation) screening criteria, as outlined by Dr Donaldson (letter, November 5).

The most telling point, however, is that unless unrealistically stringent restrictions were placed on the freedom of test-positive individuals, the spread of Aids could not be prevented.

You appear not to appreciate the dire consequences for the individual of a positive result. How many people are likely to submit themselves to voluntary testing when the implications to them as individuals may be so profound?

Some of the major barriers to acceptance of the test are adverse psychological effects, the threats of prejudice at work or school if confidentiality should be broken down, and the fact that, at present, life insurance and endowment policies are unlikely to be available to those found to be positive. You appear to have failed to think through all the implications of your proposal. This viral info-

tion is epidemic in most, if not all countries and if foreign visitors are to be considered for screening this would have to apply to everyone, including those from the United States and other European countries. Is this logical when there are already many thousands of infected people in the United Kingdom?

It takes two people, actively consenting to intercourse, to transmit the Aids virus. The test itself cannot change sexual behaviour. By testing and concentrating attention on those who are infected we are only dealing with half of the problem. Education, on the other hand, targets both partners.

Voluntary testing may facilitate, but cannot replace, education. Health education must be our main defence at the present time. Yours faithfully, DEIRDRE CUNNINGHAM, DAVID MILLER, DON JEFFRIES, A. J. PINCHING, JOHN GREEN, EDDY BECK, LAU KAI, St Mary's Hospital, Praed Street, W2, November 13.

From Dr T. H. S. Burns Sir, In the attempt to cope with the problem of Aids the Government is said to be looking for strong words which will make the point, without being too offensive to too many people.

Perhaps the first thing they should do is to insist on the screening of the following words on every TV picture showing a couple jumping into bed together for a casual sexual experience: "Government Health Warning - Fornication can seriously damage your health." Yours truly, T. H. S. BURNS, 27 Riverbank Road, Ramsey, Isle of Man, November 12.

Funding the arts

From the Chairman of the Royal Opera House Sir, I am afraid that Mr Guthrie, Chairman of the Council of Regional Arts Associations (November 15), has misinterpreted what I said at the Royal Opera House Press conference last week. Far from just pleading the case of the Royal Opera House, I emphasised again and again that my concern was with the arts generally. I concentrated on two key issues.

The first was that, with the increasing and understandable priority proposed for the regions, the national companies, including Covent Garden, were now particularly endangered. The point of suggesting a separate grant for these companies (via the Arts Council) is precisely to achieve arts expansion in the regions without damaging the national institutions. As President of Southern Arts, I need no reminding of the importance of regional arts.

Phrase or fable?

From Mr P. W. E. Semmens Sir, Mrs Mary Visick (November 12) is slightly adrift with her reference to the nineteenth-century railways in Kent. Until 1899 there were two bitter rivals active in the area, the South Eastern Railway, and the London, Chatham & Dover, the latter being known as the "London, Smasham & Turnover" or "London Smasham & Over".

However, in that year, after virtually bankrupting each other, they entered into partnership as the South Eastern & Chatham Railway, which became known as the "Slow, Easy & Comfortable". The new joint management committee, which was as close as the amalgamation went, wanted to establish a new image, and in 1901 their express passenger D class locomotives appeared.

They looked splendid, with copper cap to their chimneys and a huge brass dome cover, while the locomotive itself was adorned with the most elaborate livery ever to be used in this country. Although at the time of writing it is not actually on display at York, the National Railway Museum's preserved example, No 737, shows off all seven different colours that were applied in the Ashford paintshops. Yours faithfully, P. W. E. SEMMENS, Assistant Keeper, National Railway Museum, Leeman Road, York, November 12.

But of course the key point is the size of the overall arts cake. This is why the second point I concentrated on at the Press conference, as correctly reflected in *The Times* on November 12, was with the (to put it mildly) disappointing allocation to the arts in the public expenditure distribution for 1987-88.

The Minister for the Arts, Mr Richard Luce, clearly fought as hard as he could and it is astonishing and deeply discouraging that, in the end, the arts should get one of the lowest of all increases, well below probable inflation.

The arts are one of this country's proudest achievements, an excellent investment and source of world prestige. They deserve better than this. Yours faithfully, CLAU MOSER, Chairman, Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, WC2, November 17.

Thin blue line

From the Chief Commandant of the Metropolitan Special Constabulary Sir, Your series of articles on the police (November 10-14) has been interesting, but lacking in one very major component. At no point have you made any reference to the Special Constabulary, but at the same time you have referred repeatedly to the lack of numbers of police, and to the need for public support and understanding of the service.

Such support is given in great abundance throughout the country by the Special Constabulary. The Metropolitan Special Constabulary, for whom alone I can speak, undertook 490,000 hours of duty and training in 1985. This represents 14,000 weeks of 35 hours, or 269 working years! Yours faithfully, A. A. HAMMOND, Chief Commandant, Metropolitan Special Constabulary, New Scotland Yard, Broadway, SW1.

English in schools

From Mr W. C. R. Whalley Sir, Mr N. M. Jacobs' letter (November 13) suggests that *Animal Farm* is too advanced a book for a child of 12 to understand. To penetrate deeply into Orwell's satire may indeed require a good deal of esoteric knowledge. On the other hand it may be read as a fairy tale, with the inherent lesson that idealists in the end prove fallible. An earlier generation of children were given *Gulliver's Travels* to read, a similar type of satire with rather more difficult lessons. Yours etc, W. WHALLEY, 105 High Street, Hungerford, Berkshire.

Fiat lux

From Mr H. E. M. Crowle Sir, Mr Wood (November 4) is horrified at the installation of "slot machine... electric plastic candles" in Italian churches, even, he writes, in the Cinque Terre. But all is not plastic, yet.

My wife and I visited these same villages this year and were fortunate to be in Monterosso on Good Friday evening. At nightfall we found ourselves joining a procession of most of the inhabitants, who were carrying "living" candles through streets that were lined with hundreds of "living" candles flitting in improvised cups of waxed paper on both sides of the roadway. Although strings of coloured electric lights had been hung aloft in Christmas tree fashion, there were also some "living" candles on balconies and at windows.

ON THIS DAY

NOVEMBER 19 1862

The Duke of Wellington (1769-1852) died on September 14 and was buried under the dome of St Paul's, not far from Nelson. Sixteen military bands accompanied the procession; every regiment in the British Army was represented. Of the generals at the cathedral the oldest, at 84, was the Marquis of Anglesey (1768-1854) who, as Lord of Alvingham, had commanded the cavalry at Waterloo and lost a leg while on horseback beside the Duke.

THE FUNERAL OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON

... It almost seemed as if the whole world had assembled to witness the ceremonial, for the people were everywhere - built into the walls, swarming in the streets, and clustered like bees on every projection and parapet. When St James-street was reached, the double view, first eastwards along Piccadilly, and then down towards the Palace, was singularly impressive. The entire breadth of Piccadilly was closed in with an embankment of men and women, numbers of waggons, carts, coaches, and omnibuses having been placed in the roadway to give their occupants a more commanding view. The line of procession now led along the region of clubs... Crocford's and the Conservative Club were the two buildings which seemed to hold the greatest number of people and which made the greatest show...

The Oxford and Cambridge Club, the Army and Navy, the Carlton, the Reform, the Travellers and the Athenaeum, all swarming with occupants... The Haymarket and Trafalgar-square were, like Waterloo-place, great centres of attraction. At the latter point there could not have been much less than 40,000 people assembled; and the National Gallery, the roof of which was covered with spectators, borrowed from the scene a grace and animation which it never knew before. At Charing-cross, as along the entire route, nothing could be more remarkable than the decorous and orderly conduct of the multitude, who preserved an imposing and expressive silence as the ear went by. The humbler man bared his head in the same reverential manner as his betters, and the only cry that was heard was, now and then, "Off hands!"... All the cross streets leading out of the Strand presented in a still more striking manner the appearance we have described at earlier points of the route... The shop windows had been turned to account in a most marvellous way, and included numbers of full-grown people, comprising themselves for the occasion into the dimensions of charity-school children...

The car arrived at the entrance to the cathedral about ten minutes after twelve, and preparations for the removal of the coffin were immediately made, but something was wrong, or went wrong, and the consequence was a delay of nearly an hour and a half before the funeral procession down the nave could be formed. In the interval, and while the undertakers' men used every exertion to facilitate the unloading of the car, the entrance to the cathedral presented a singular and not uninteresting spectacle. There were old generals and field officers, the illustrious companions in arms of the Duke, enduring as best they could the force of the searching November wind which blew keenly through the open doorway of the sacred edifice. The distinguished foreigners withdrew before it several times, and the clergy, who, in double lines extending along the nave, waited for the service to begin, vainly sheltered their faces in their robes. Garter and his colleagues stood it out bravely, and, after many efforts, at length succeeded in marshalling the procession. It was a fine and an imposing sight to see the muster of old veterans at the entrance during this detention - Sir William Napier sitting on a kiltie-drum - Sir Charles moving about with the activity of a much younger man - Lord Hardinge, also, vigorous and full of life; but, most wonderful of all, the Marquis of Anglesey, with bald, uncovered head, apparently unconscious of the fact that age stands exposure to cold less successfully than youth. The display, of orders, stars, and ribbons here was quite overpowering...

It was with regret that we observed the unseemly appearance of the entrance to the cathedral, with portions of the timberwork unremoved, and the roughest marks of the carpenter painfully visible at its threshold... The funeral pomp, splendid as it was, is nothing, but the million and a half of mourners will be remembered as a historic fact - a shining proof that we have not forgotten to value patriotism, and that the memory of him who on so many fields defended the liberties of his country is enshrined in the hearts of her people...

It was unfortunately simple and beautiful, unspoilt either by premature preparation or, on the following morning, by the slightest trace of what had just flickered into life for that one night of the Easter holiday. Yours faithfully, H. E. M. CROWLE, 24 St Leonard's Road, Exeter, Devon.

From Sir Geoffrey Jackson Sir, Our American cousins have found the golden mean between plastic/electric church candles (Mr Wood, November 4) and the guttering deprivations of wax lined with hundreds of "living" candles flitting in improvised cups of waxed paper on both sides of the roadway. Although strings of coloured electric lights had been hung aloft in Christmas tree fashion, there were also some "living" candles on balconies and at windows.

The sacred and the profane, as it were! Yours faithfully, GEOFFREY JACKSON, 63b Cadogan Square, SW1.

The choice facing Europe over jobs

Whether facing terrorists, negotiating with the Americans or discussing its own internal affairs, the EEC has a shaky record on achieving concerted action. Even the most savage external threats seem to highlight divisions rather than unity within the Community, short-term national interest always seems to triumph over the common good.

But the long-term challenge to the Community's way of life may stem more from industrial decline than from the bomb and the bullet. High unemployment throughout the Community and a constant failure by all member states (with the possible exception of West Germany) to keep pace with the US and Japan in information technology, suggest that so long as the 12 do not hang together they shall, industrially, be hanged apart.

The way forward (if there is any) has to lie in co-operation across the borders of EEC members so that the Community's workforce can build up its skills and expertise, particularly in IT, as swiftly as possible.

The action begins next week. The People and Technology conference and exhibition, to be held on November 25-27 at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, Westminster, is the first attempt to bring together leading EEC decision-makers and industrialists to tackle the question of how the 12 can share knowledge and learn from each other's experience.

Sponsored jointly by the Manpower Services Commission and the Commission of the European Communities, it is widely considered a significant contribution by Britain

during its EEC presidency to the process of thinking *Communitaire* in the drive to upgrade technical and teaching skills to meet the needs of the information technology era.

In political terms, the event will be star-studded. Lord Young from the Department of Employment and Kenneth Baker from the Department of Education and Science will be giving the main speeches on each of the two big conference days and it is likely that the opportunity will be used — at least by the Department of Education and Science — to make some major policy statements.

From the European Commission there will be high-level delegates representing the 12 member states. Manuel Martin — the Commission vice-president responsible for employment, social affairs, training and education — is expected to speak on the EEC's future policy on training and the new technologies.

Finally, there will be a constant background of lobbying for money the EEC is making available for development work in this area, not least the well-upholstered COMETT programme to encourage links between higher education and industry in new technology.

This is not the first time the impact of the Community has been felt on the training scene within Britain. Much of the funding for the Youth Training Scheme, for example, comes from EEC coffers and there are several small-scale local projects which would never have got off the ground without the financial backing of the Social Fund's innovation programme.

What is distinctive about People and Technology is that



Flying the flag: top, Peter Lucas, director of an Open Tech project and, from left, Lord Young, Employment Secretary, Kenneth Baker, Education Secretary and Manuel Martin, European Commission vice-president responsible for employment, social affairs, training and education

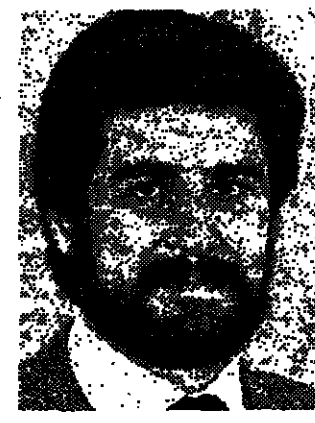
The People and Technology Conference will be held at the Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre, Westminster, November 25-27

it aims to bring together from across Europe, top politicians, leading trainers and technological innovators so they can learn from each other, and to foster long-term co-operation.

In other words, and unlike some other EEC projects, simply throwing European Currency Units (ECUs) at the problem is not enough. The exchange of information and expertise is what really matters.

The exhibition also provides a great opportunity for leading British producers of training materials and courses to put their goods before a European audience.

Leading players such as the Centre for Advanced Manufacturing Technology in Sheffield, Interactive Information Systems and Macmillan Intek will be demonstrating their products alongside some of the more enterprising trainers



from France, West Germany, Ireland and Italy.

Bringing together the best of the 12 to share and compare is at the heart of People and Technology. But perhaps the most practical symbol of this endeavour is the official EEC Euro TecneT network of demonstration projects which will be taking centre stage for much of the conference.

Euro TecneT is part of the EEC's Action Programme on IT and training, and its particular virtue is that it brings together Europe's real grass-roots pioneers of new techniques and methodologies.

Nothing could be further from the remote bureaucrats of Brussels, for example, than the Information Technology Centres (ITeC) Consultancy Unit, which is based in dingy premises in a west London back street.

But the work being done by

ITeC is genuinely innovative and, as a member of Euro TecneT, it now has the opportunity to meet and talk about other trail-blazing projects in West Germany, France, Italy and elsewhere so that the benefits of its work can be pooled and passed on.

There are more than 70 demonstration projects within the Euro TecneT and several will be represented, both during the conferences and in the exhibition.

The projects deal with problems that are familiar to a British audience even though the educational or social context might be different.

For example, a scheme based at St Etienne du Rouvroy in France is designed to equip young people of modest educational attainments with enough data-processing skills to get them an office job in finance or accountancy.

If Euro TecneT can start pumping out such information across the Community, it will be playing a valuable role.

A great worry for traditional engineering outfits — especially those of small to medium size — is how to retain their workers in the new IT-linked techniques. At the Bildungswerk der Berliner Wirtschaft in Berlin they think they have gone some way towards solving this problem.

At a time when there is more gloom than hope about the chances of industrial regeneration and the reduction of the unemployment figures, it is some small consolation perhaps that the problem is at root a European rather than a purely British phenomenon.

At the People and Technology conference there may be a chance to show that the Old World is not beaten yet.

Britain shows the way in open learning

One of the few areas of technical training in which the UK can claim an indisputable world lead is in developments in "open" or "distance" learning.

Carrying the flag in the Euro TecneT for our achievements in this field, on November 25 and 26, will be the Open Tech project in computer-aided engineering based at Warley College of Technology in the West Midlands.

Peter Lucas, the project director, said: "We are looking forward to the conference but, to be honest, I think that our colleagues in Europe will be learning more from us than we shall from them."

What beckons Mr Lucas to the conference, however, is the chance to start selling Warley's open-learning materials to an EEC audience.

The course provides 300 hours of training, including 175 hours of "hands-on" use of industrial software and hardware. And there is a possibility that this could become a big seller to western European engineering companies.

Mr Lucas said: "Our course is aimed at technicians and managers who have had some industrial experience but who know little about new technology. We've currently got learners from big organizations such as GEC Avionics and English Electric Valves right down to small companies employing just 10 people."

The interesting feature of the Warley CAE course is that when learners sign on, they get handed not just books but also a low-cost, computer-graphics work-station called Hektor, devised by Mr Lucas and his colleagues.

Hektor, which can be linked to the central Warley computer by telephone line, underlines the way that high technology itself is now being used to deliver training in high-technology skills.

Through the Hektor work-station, learners are able to follow the 11 modules within the project (in subjects such as computer-aided, two-dimensional draughting and design, three-dimensional solid mod-

elling, flexible manufacturing systems, and computer numerically controlled machinery), then take assessments, which can be monitored by the project's staff.

So though learners are able to study in their own time, and at their own pace and place, it still means that checks and tutorials can be made to help them individually.

Warley has set up 20 centres across the country, through which its learners can have access to the CNC machines that make up the real-life engineering hardware of the high-tech era. Though the computer work is the exact replica of what the learners would use in a "real work" situation, it is obviously essentially vital that they should be able to see the results of their programming achieved in

Special training at a remarkably low price

practice on authentic CNC machine tools.

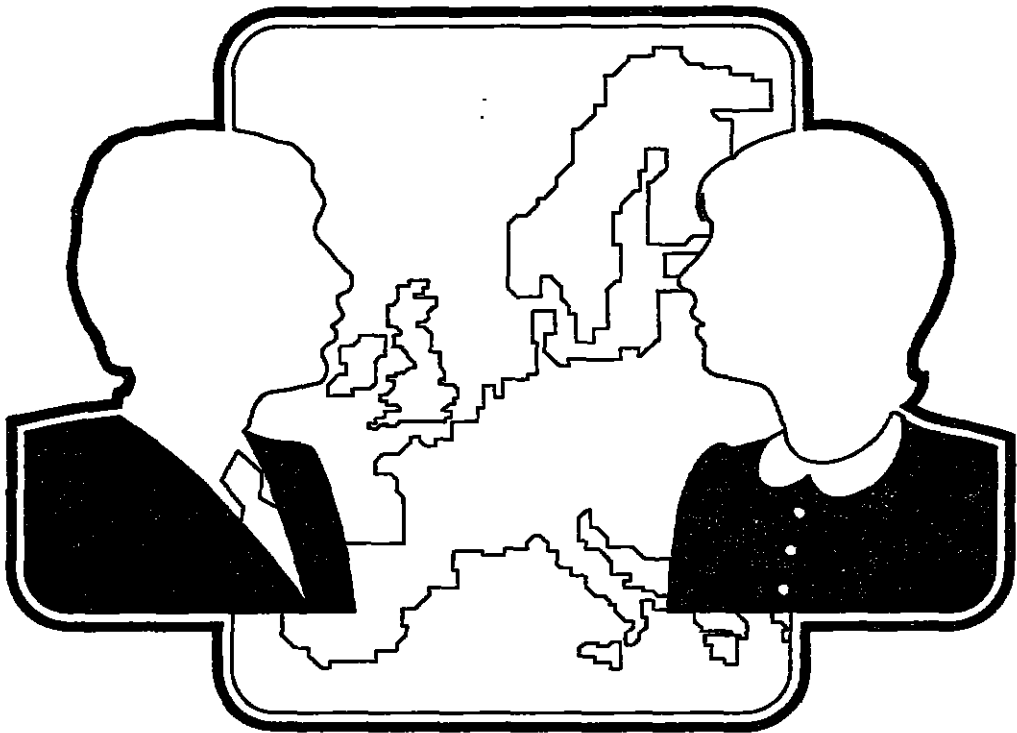
By making the machine tools available on this "pool" basis, Warley is able to deliver training in these sophisticated and capital-intensive skills at a remarkably low price; the cheapest module is £60, the most expensive £180.

Of course, costs need to be at this kind of level if the medium-size engineering companies, which desperately need to update their skills, are going to be able to afford the fees.

All the signs are that the numbers enrolled on the Warley course will grow and grow. Recruitment so far has been by word of mouth, magazine articles, visits and the occasional advertisement. But the People and Technology exhibition, at which Warley has a stand, will be the first opportunity for Mr Lucas to present his materials to an EEC-wide audience.

Once trainers on the Continent can be persuaded to get over their initial unfamiliarity with distance-learning, its many virtues should receive a warm welcome.

PEOPLE & TECHNOLOGY INVESTING IN TRAINING FOR EUROPE'S FUTURE



A MAJOR CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION ON EDUCATION & TRAINING FOR THE NEW TECHNOLOGIES

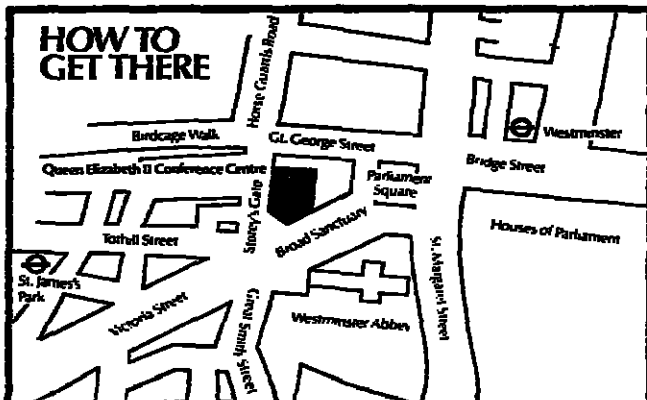
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25-27 November 1986

Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, Westminster, London.

A major conference and exhibition on education and training for the new technologies, tackling the urgent priority of expanding and improving training in the new technologies within the European Community. It will be the most extensive exchange of ideas, of training information and techniques and is a major commercial, political and educational event, organised in London during the United Kingdom presidency of the EEC.

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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

The Commission of the European Communities publishes a variety of information, brochures and magazines concerned with education, training and technological change. Among them can be found:

- **Social Europe** : the main information outlet for developments in social affairs at European Level. Contact address - Official Publications Office of the E.C., L-2985 Luxembourg
- **EuroTecneT** : the newsletter of the Commission's programme on New Information Technologies and Vocational Training. Contact address - European Centre for Work & Society, P.O. Box 3073, NL-6202 NB Maastricht
- **Transition programme** : the Commission's coordination programme to assist young people to prepare for adult and working life. Contact address - IFAPLAN, 32 Square Ambiorix, 1040 Brussels.
- **Interact News** : information on the Commission's network of district projects for the insertion of disabled people into active life. Contact address - Bureau Interact, 32 Square Ambiorix, Bte 47, B-1040 Brussels.
- **Journal of European network for readaptation centres** : news about programmes for the disabled in various readaptation centres. Contact address - Commission of the E.C., Division V/C/3, 200, rue de la Loi, B-1049 Brussels
- **Eurydice** : education information network in the E.C. for the mutual exchange of relevant information between Member States. Contact address - European Unit of Eurydice, 17 rue Archimède, Bte 17, B-1040 Brussels.
- **Informisep** : publication on developments in employment, training and related policies in Member States. Contact address - European Centre for Work & Society, P.O. Box 3073, NL-6202 NB Maastricht.

1986-11-20

FOCUS

PEOPLE AND TECHNOLOGY/2

A guru's charter for success

Whatever the shortcomings of Britain's industrial performance there is never a lack of bright people coming up with innovative ideas.

Dr Reza Ziarati is a Turkish Kurd by birth but a British engineer by adoption. Within the loose framework provided by colleges of technology and the Manpower Services Commission, Dr Ziarati has been able to carve a niche for his infectious energy for engineering training.

As head of the Department of Engineering at the Southampton Institute of Higher Education and the designer of the Euro TecneT Project on Multiskilling for Mechanical Engineers, he is bringing the benefits of his original thinking to a Europe-wide audience.

Dr Ziarati says: "For 25 years Britain has watched itself falling behind its industrial competitors. There has been no lack of awareness. In fact there has been a ceaseless supply of conferences and official reports commenting on it."

"Yet still there is a lack of decisive

action actually to change things and tackle the problem seriously."

Dr Ziarati is now a part of what could be called the Educational Establishment, but he believes that the educational system has a lot to answer for. Even the really gifted technology educationists and researchers of recent years have not often been interested in the practical use of their ideas on the factory floor.

"It was," he says, "more a matter of intellectual curiosity than industrial application that inspired them."

So if Britain is to catch the wave of new technology before it washes finally on to the shores of the Pacific Basin, technology-training courses need to be restructured along three lines.

"First," says Dr Ziarati, "all technology training needs to be taken out of the classroom and put into the workshop or laboratory. The kind of people who want to be practical technologists will have their enthusiasm inspired only by working in practical surroundings."

"Second, give trainees and students the real thing. Engineering has the

reputation of being a difficult subject to learn. It is not difficult so long as students are training through using real equipment and dealing with real technical problems.

"Third, forge links with industry. An academic establishment is in danger of losing its grip on the latest techniques unless it is constantly refreshed and inspired by working with engineers from industry. That means having strong contacts with local companies so as to undertake constantly joint projects with them."

The proof of his formula lies in his own work. From his Southampton base he has worked going on with companies such as Ford, BL, Rediffusion, JCB, Tetre-pak, Cam Gears, BP, Shell and British Steel. As often as not, his department is paid through donations of the latest equipment; that way, despite shortages in his budget, he can match the facilities of even his most advanced clients.

For the Euro TecneT, Dr Ziarati is running a one-year Higher National Diploma course for unemployed technology engineers, which has been

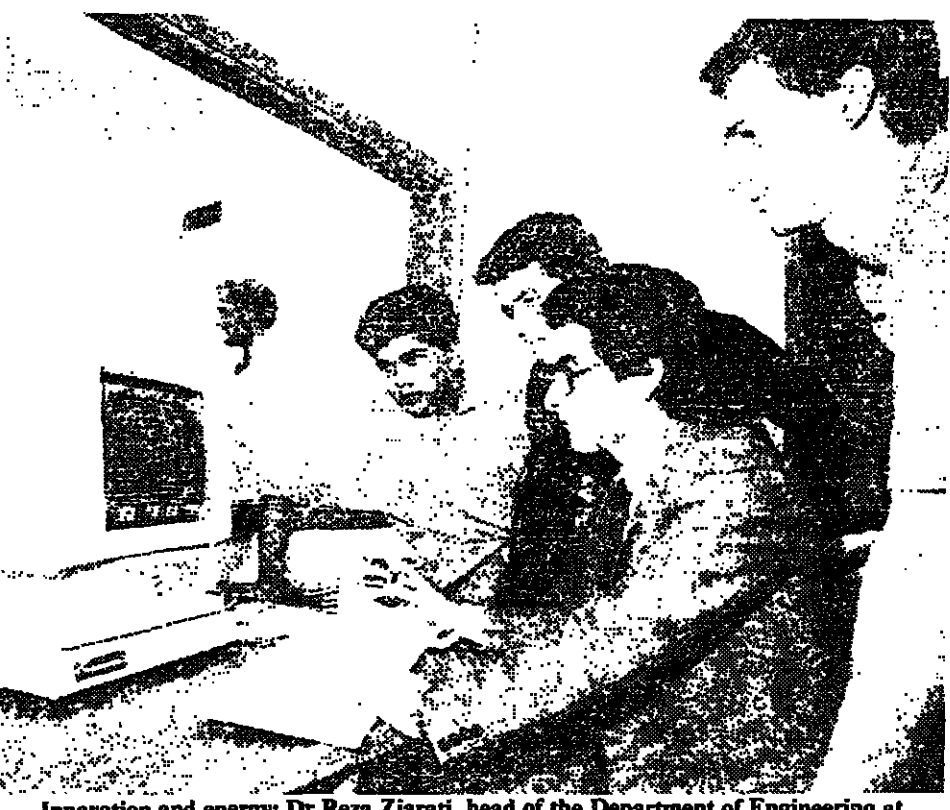
funded by the Manpower Services Commission.

Through intensive "hands-on" experience and practical tuition, the students are introduced to computer-aided engineering and computer-integrated manufacture. The results have been tremendous. Almost all the students have immediately found jobs in local industry, providing companies with the middle management and supervisory knowledge that is essential if new technology is to be implemented successfully.

Dr Ziarati says: "Analysis of the labour market in the United Kingdom has shown clearly that there are tremendous gaps at the higher technician level in electrical, electronic and mechanical engineering."

"The kind of multi-skilling course which my colleagues and I have been running needs to be duplicated throughout the country if industry is to get the skilled manpower it needs."

At the People and Technology conference, Dr Ziarati's talk will be entitled New Technology Strategies: Education/Industry Partnership.



Innovation and energy: Dr Reza Ziarati, head of the Department of Engineering at Southampton Institute of Higher Education

"If we are going to get the benefits of the information age, then we need to improve our communications," says Oleh Liber. "With the aid of new technology we can do this - provided the technology is fully exploited."

Mr Liber heads the Information Technology Centre (ITC) Training Materials Network (ITMN) which is, perhaps, the most exciting and unusual British project within the Euro TecneT network.

The network is run by the ITC Consultancy Unit (based at Notting Hill, west London). Its work has attracted widespread interest in Britain and abroad and led to a reputation for making the kind of imaginative leaps forward which the information technology (IT) age demands.

As a result, there will be a special demonstration of the network for the People and Technology exhibition. Its impact could be far-reaching because it tackles the fundamental issue of the way IT opens up communications on an unprecedented scale.

"Traditionally," says Mr Liber, "communications to the public have been channelled through newspapers, book publishers or broadcasting stations. Now, however, the potential exists for material to be put on to data

Taking the creative leap ahead to meet demand



Bright sparks: a trainee electronics under the Youth Training Scheme, which is largely funded by the EEC

"You no longer need to go through the intermediary of a

centralized unit, which not only adds expense but can impose restrictions on what is being communicated."

He recognizes that there may be long-term political and social implications for this mass freedom of communication, but his immediate concern is to put the technology at the service of industrial trainers in IT.

He adds: "It is moving very fast. By producing training materials in the conventional way the likelihood is that by the time a book is published or software is sold, it will be out of date."

"The answer is for the author or trainer to put their materials straight on to the computer so that it can be instantly indexed and accessed by anyone else who wants to use it."

Naturally, the other potential users of this system would have to be members of a network. In Mr Liber's case, the network is made up of the 175 Information Technology Centres (ITCs) scattered around the country.

ITCs are perhaps the most important contribution made by Britain to the task of mass education in IT literacy. Arising from a one-off project in west London (in the same premises now occupied by ICTU), the idea of an "open entry centre" for training in IT skills was taken up by Kenneth Baker (then at the Department of Trade and Industry) and turned into a nationwide facility.

Now ITCs are to be found in most big towns and cities, providing courses mainly, though not exclusively, for YTS trainees.

Because ITCs are at the sharpest possible end of IT training (dealing with adolescents who often lack any formal educational qualifications), they are also proving the most resourceful and imaginative in devising appropriate learning materials. But, as Mr Liber points out, there is the danger of duplication as each ITC tackles the problem of producing course material for the latest bit of software or hardware which has appeared on the market.

The answer is the instant pooling of materials and this, in essence, is the aim of the network project.

If the aim of creating efficient, fast, mutual cooperation between EEC countries on new technology training is to be achieved, then, without doubt, it depends on the work of people like Oleh Liber.

"The joke is though that our funding is very uncertain," he says. "We may enjoy some celebrity status now, but for all I know we might all be out of a job this time next year."

One of my chief aims at the conference and exhibition is to meet some people who might have some money to keep us in business."

Rare opportunity to lobby audience

Too many trade exhibitions have the tired look of having seen it all before. The People and Technology Exhibition will be different.

It is being held for the first, and maybe the only time. Among the exhibitors there is a feeling of freshness because they see the event as a rare opportunity to make their case to a Europe-wide audience.

People and Technology is not just about selling training packages, although there will be a lot of that. More important perhaps is the forum it will provide for politicians and officials to lobby Europe's top decision-makers on the direction of training, technology, and employment policy.

Foremost among these lobbyists will be the EEC's own Youth Forum. According to Richard Doherty, the forum's Irish secretary, the event is an invaluable opportunity to raise the profile of the youth unemployment-new technology issue. Mr Doherty says: "People under the age of 25 are disproportionately represented among the unemployed throughout Europe. In Spain, for example, 45 per cent of young people are without work and there are similarly high figures in many other EEC countries."

A Youth Forum will help to keep interests in focus

"At the same time there are skill shortages in the high-technology industries and a low-participation rate in higher education compared with America and Japan. The problems are plain. It is a question of getting Europe-wide action to deal with it."

Mr Doherty believes that the EEC should play a vital role in stimulating national governments to take action. As local priorities change, it needs an organization like the Youth Forum to keep the issue in focus because it is central to Europe's future.

He says: "There is a need for a change of culture within schools so that teachers start thinking technology right at the board. We have to generate initiatives for vocational preparation at the school level."

Another exhibitor thinking about Europe-wide qualifications is the Business and Technical Education Council (BTEC). BTEC is already associated with Euro TecneT by its validation of several of the Euro TecneT projects. But the impending reorganizations of British qualifications through the National Council for Vocational Qualifications (NCVQ) could open the doors for a wider application of BTEC awards.

BTEC's Tony Hiron

says: "Depending on what comes out of NCVQ, we could find that there is a correspondence between the levels of our awards and those in the EEC so that our Certificates and Diplomas could have European currency."

BTEC is particularly interested in the exhibition because it is a chance to show off its distance-learning package. Open BTEC, which focuses on updating for business management.

"In general, though, our view is that students are going to want to make use of lots of different learning modes at different points in their career. By exhibiting at the People and Technology Conference, we can show that there are a range of study methods available within the BTEC provision."

If "Into Europe" becomes the battle-cry of the British exhibitors, none will yell it louder than Macmillan Intek. Having been created through the fusion of money and publishing skills from Macmillan and the engineering and training expertise of the Southtek Open Learning project, Macmillan Intek is now the largest provider of technical distance-learning material in the country.

With its focus on basic electrical skills, electronics and CNC machine tools, the company believes it is providing material that is very much needed.

The company says its packages are aimed primarily at ground-level staff and technicians who are trying to grapple with the transition to new technology.

A combination of workbook, computer program, videotape, audio-tape and a purpose-built practical kit works very well, the company says, and is particularly helpful for people such as maintenance staff on shiftwork who are often the ones for whom retraining is most important.

Currently Macmillan Intek has 35 topics available and is selling to companies such as Kodak, ICI, Mars Electronics, Lucas and Thorn EM1 Protec.

As far as Hi-Port Systems is concerned, the aim of participating is to begin registering on the European training circuit. Hi-Port has developed a special keyboard training system which is now in use with the National Girobank, British Telecom, Barclays Bank and the AA. So having broken into the big

companies in the UK, the move to Europe is the next logical step.

Richard Needham who wrote the original Easylearn software, said: "We've devised our own dedicated machine. We can then supply the software adapted to the particular needs of the customer."

"There is still a lot of fear of keyboard skills, but these have

to be overcome by staff at all levels if full advantage is to be taken of the potential of computers. Clerical staff, for example, often need to be equipped with specific keyboard skills due to the introduction of computerization or word-processing.

"Our system has been shown to produce results to European formats. Basically at People and Technology we

want to make the contacts with governmental and other organizations to explore what room there is for co-operation."

It sounds, therefore, as if most of the people at the conference will have clear goals in mind. They won't be there just for a jolly. It will be an occasion to make significant contacts and to set up serious deals.

BTEC EDUCATING FOR EMPLOYMENT

BTEC offers a range of nationally recognised qualifications in a wide variety of subjects, including business & finance, agriculture, computing, construction, design, distribution, engineering, hotel & catering, information technology, management, public administration and science. These courses are run in colleges, polytechnics and other centres throughout England Wales and Northern Ireland.

There are four main categories of award: First, National, Higher National and Continuing Education - which can be studied by various methods including full time, part time, sandwich, day and block release and open and distance learning.

As part of its Continuing Education provisions, BTEC has also developed a range of short courses, specifically designed to equip adults for the changing world of work.

Business and Industry are changing rapidly. New developments and technology are affecting everyone's working life. BTEC's modular courses providing work related qualifications benefiting both the individual and industry and commerce.

Another recent BTEC innovation is the development of a range of open learning packages for business and management subjects under the title "Open BTEC - Updating for Business".

For more information on BTEC courses contact:

BTEC (Business & Technician Education Council) P.R. Section Central House Upper Woburn Place LONDON WC1H 0HH Tel: 01-388-3288



Advertisement for Intek Stand B20. Text: "A trained workforce exploits new technology: an untrained one becomes its victim..." Macmillan Intek was among the first and largest of the MSC's Open Tech programme. Now it is one of the UK's leading providers of Open Learning packages for technical skills training in industry. We will be delighted to welcome you to our stand to demonstrate our quality multi-media packages to you. STAND B20 PEOPLE & TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION

Advertisement for People & Technology Exhibition Stand A14/15. Text: "At the same time there are skill shortages in the high-technology industries and a low-participation rate in higher education compared with America and Japan. The problems are plain. It is a question of getting Europe-wide action to deal with it." BTEC's Tony Hiron

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Princely welcome comes in a twang

Continued from page 1

but decidedly second-rate desert entertainment laid on for them in Qatar last weekend, and which they left half-an-hour early.

The Waleses appeared fascinated and delighted by the Saudi effort, which was staged with great style.

Nearby, the motorcade of Rolls-Royces and open red Chevrolet police cars sat parked with their tyres half-buried in the sand, as though attendant upon some superior Californian beach party. But even sheikhs in Mercedes are not immune to getting bogged down and requiring a push: the royal party took the precaution of returning to the metalled road in a four-wheel drive.

In the lunch tent, they sat on the ground and picked at whole roast sheep from low tables, nibbling succulent olives and red dates. The spaceman's father, who is Governor of Riyadh and was host for the occasion, had clearly spared no effort to assure the royal couple that despite the curious affair of the errant Crown Prince Abdullah, they were honoured and welcome guests in Saudi Arabia.

Indeed, the royal tour of Saudi bears the hallmarks of having been upgraded to little short of a state visit, with King Fahd himself insisting that he gives the first banquet for the Prince of Wales, and all stops being pulled out to make the visit a success.

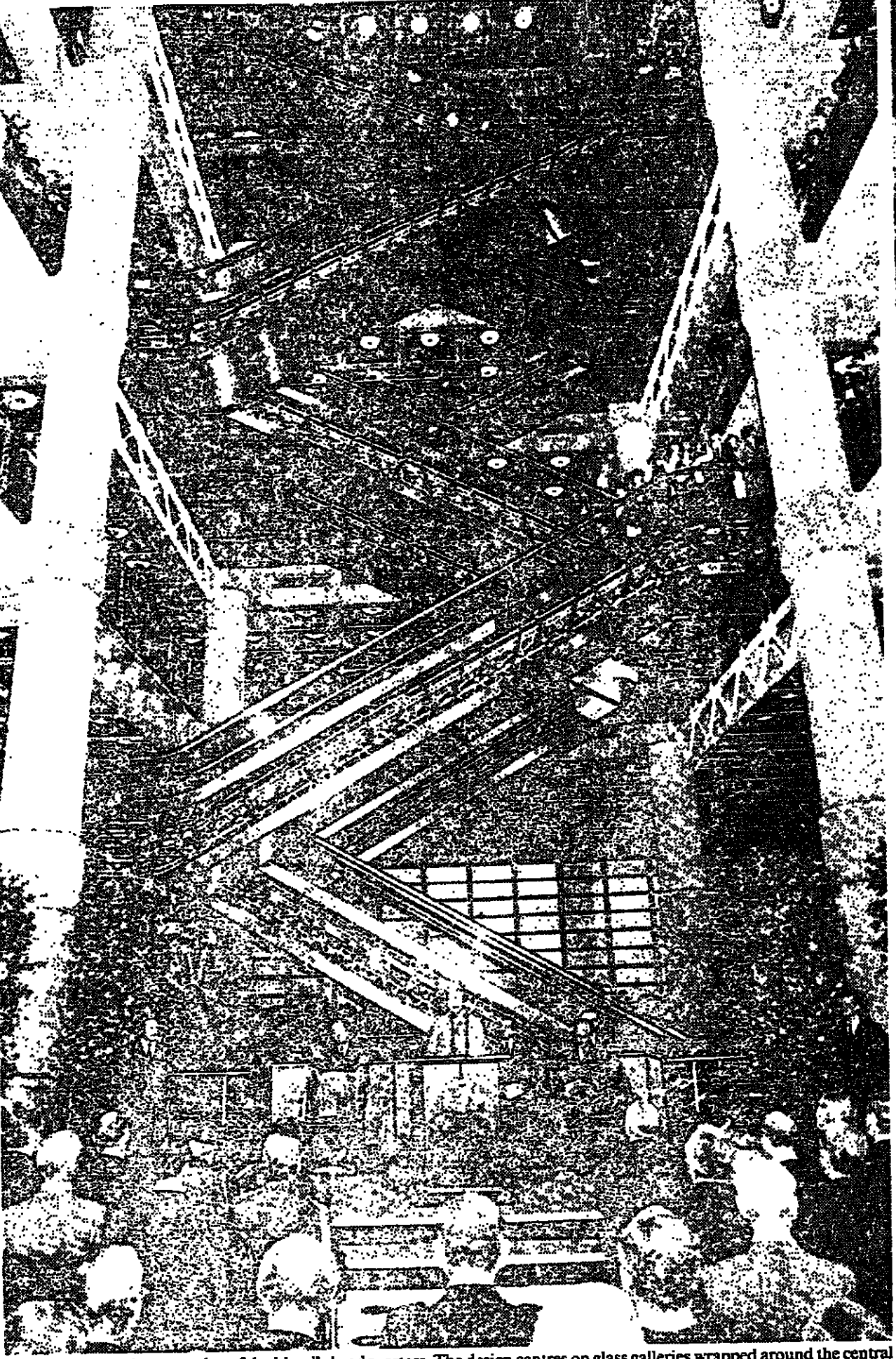
There was never any serious question of it being anything else, for too much is at stake in Saudi-British relations, which are currently exceptionally warm despite incidents like the leaked letter from the former British ambassador and the deportation of British nurses for drinking.

Saudi relations with the United States have cooled because of the increasing difficulty of getting arms sales through Congress, coupled with what the Saudis regard as excessive US support for Israel, right or wrong.

The Saudis, being few in number, require state-of-the-art weaponry to defend their long coastline against potential aggressors from Iran to Ethiopia.

Britain has been selling arms to Arabia since 1929, when they concluded a deal for four de Havilland bi-planes.

Queen praises futuristic tower of glass



The official opening yesterday of the Lloyd's headquarters. The design centres on glass galleries wrapped around the central atrium - the building's lifts and its heating and ventilation ducts are on the outside. (Photograph: Chris Harris)



The Queen speaks at the opening ceremony.

£165m HQ for Lloyd's is opened

The Queen yesterday officially opened the new £165 million home of Lloyd's of London insurance service, at Lime Street, in the City.

She unveiled a plaque during a ceremony at which the 5,000 guests included Mr Richard Rogers, the building's designer, Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, and Sir David Rowe-Ham, the Lord Mayor of London.

The Lloyd's Lutine Bell sounded twice to signify the opening of the 12-storey metal, glass and concrete structure.

The move there was necessary because the insurance service outgrew its old base in the same street.

Mr Peter Miller, chairman of Lloyd's, said during his welcoming speech to the Queen that the new base was "an exciting contrast to so much of the boring modern architecture in this modern City."

During her speech, the Queen said: "The building is without doubt a landmark, both in terms of the skyline of the City and in the history of Lloyd's."

"I believe it to be significant that Lloyd's, steeped as it is in tradition, should occupy a building which is so clearly forward-looking."

The building, which took five years to construct, is Lloyd's fourth base in 60 years.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Thatcher batting but is it cricket?

The Prime Minister was involved in a row with Mr Kinnock, Mr Roy Jenkins, and many other fans, in the Commons yesterday about the controversial Australian tour of Sir Robert Armstrong, the England captain.

Essentially, the tour is the "bodyline" affair in reverse. In the first test, now being played in the hallowed Sydney courtroom, it is the Australian attack which is using an unprecedentedly brutal tactic, not England. The home bowlers are insisting that the English team stop trying to prevent the renegade Pom, Mr Peter Wright, from publishing what he likes about Sir Robert Hollis, the deceased captain of M15 - the famous England gentlemen's XI. Apparently, this Mr Wright is claiming that Hollis was really on the other side during all the big tests, that the team played against the Russians. Labour MPs do not see it this way. Not for them is Sir Robert Armstrong the victim. He is the villain.

As with the notorious tour of 1932-33, they see England as using the dirty tactics. They nearly always do. According to Labour, Sir Robert has blatantly used the vicious "security" attack. He does not deny that. But he says it is within the long-accepted laws of the game. Labour reply that that may well be true, but they ask: is it sport?

The issue finally reached the Commons yesterday. A working class England fan, Mr Geoffrey Lofthouse (Pontefract and Castleford, Lab.) exercised an Englishman's time-honoured right to take something all the way up to the Prime Minister. At question time, he told Mrs Thatcher that, if Mr Wright's memoirs were correct, then she misled the House in 1981. That was why, after an investigation by a retired England captain - Lord Trent, one of Sir Robert Armstrong's predecessors - she said she was satisfied that Sir Robert had always played a straight bat.

Mrs Thatcher replied that she stood by that statement. But then she said that the match being played in Sydney was *sub judice*. Mr Roy Jenkins, that great old stylist who now turns out for the SDP, got up to ask whether she appreciated "the increasing ludicrousness" of the match which England was playing in what he called "the Australian courts."

Then came a few graceful strokes of the kind that used to delight the crowds on our county grounds during his heyday. He spoke without a helmet. It was a reminder of the noble age. "Speaking as the Home Secretary who received the Trent report and who believed in the strong probability of the innocence of Sir Robert Hollis, and as an admirer of Sir Robert Armstrong, who served me in two capacities, I deplore the foolish mission on which the Government has sent him."

For all its elegant phrasing, this was a straightforward attack on the England selection. "What is the chance of the Rt Hon Lady recapturing her sense of proportion on this issue," he asked.

The Prime Minister replied that Mr Wright owed a service of "life-long confidentiality" to his old team. She repeated that it was all *sub judice*. She claimed that this meant that she did not have to answer any more questions about the tour. It was this that really produced an Opposition spokesman on Commons affairs, intervened to point out that it would be only *sub judice* for the Commons if the match was being played in an English court.

The Speaker, who now found himself dragged into a quarrel about international sport, replied: "As I understand it, this case in the Australian court is not *sub judice* under our rules."

This delighted the Labour benches. One after another, starting with Mr Kinnock, they could now get up on points of order and demand that the Prime Minister admit that she was wrong. Mrs Thatcher remained seated. Mr John Biffen, the leader of the House, appealed against the light. He asked the Speaker to bear in mind that the British Government was party to a match in Australia which was still going on. This produced further uproar among Labour supporters. They demanded to hear from Mrs Thatcher, not Mr Biffen, who is only secretary to the selection board. The Speaker replied that he prepared for question time every day and stood by his ruling.

Mrs Thatcher got up and changed her position. She said that what she meant was that it was "not normal" comment. Sometimes one wonders whether she really knows anything about cricket.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen holds an investiture, Buckingham Palace, 11.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Colonel, the Grenadier Guards, holds a reception for the Grenadier Guards Regimental Association branch secretaries, Buckingham Palace, 12 noon; and later, as President, the Central Council of Physical Recreation and the Institute of Sports

Sponsorship, attends a dinner, Grosvenor Hall, London, 7.

The Duchess of York attends a recital in aid of the Courtauld Institute of Art Fund, St James's Palace, 7.30.

Princess Anne, Chancellor, London University, visits Birkbeck College, Malet Street, WC1, 4.30; and later attends a dinner given by the Marketing Group of Great Britain, the Meridian Hotel, Piccadilly, 7.30.

The Duke of Gloucester at-

tends the Royal Concert, Festival Hall, South Bank, 7.45.

The Duchess of Gloucester, Vice Patron, Queen's Club, attends the club's centenary banquet, Palliser Road, W14, 7.45.

Princess Alexandra attends a reception held by the Psychiatry Research Trust, the new Lloyd's building, Lime Street, 6.30.

New exhibitions

The Kessler Collection: paintings by Modern Masters, Leicestershire Museum and Art Gallery, New Walk, Leicester; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2 to 5.30, closed Fri (ends Feb 1).

New books - hardback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

Florence, Rome and the Origins of the Renaissance, by George Holmes (Oxford, £25)

Human Rights and Human Diversity, by A.J.M. Milne (Macmillan, £25)

Jane Austen, by Tony Tanner (Macmillan, £20, paperback £5.95)

Mobler's Unknown Letters, edited by Herta and Paul Amirson, translated by Richard Stokes (Gollancz, £25)

Philip Larkin & English Poetry, by Terry Whalen (Macmillan, £25)

Bingham, archaeologist, The Lost Kingdom of Burgundy, by Christopher Cope (Constable, £14.95)

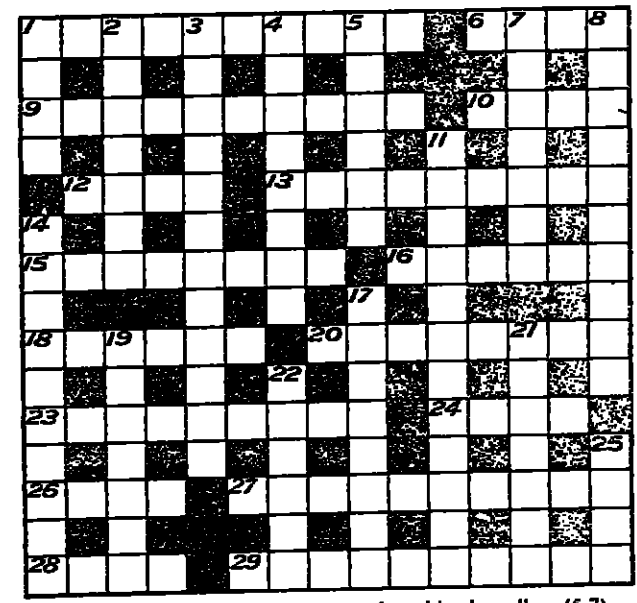
Russian Studies, by Leonard Schapiro (Collins Harvill, £15)

Secrets of Strangers, by Alice Thomas Ellis & Tom Pitt-Aikens (Duckworth, £12.50)

The Essays of Virginia Woolf, Volume 1 1904-1912, edited by Andrew McNeillie (The Hogarth Press, £18)

The Faber Book of Contemporary American Poetry, edited by Helen Vender (Faber, £9.95)

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,207



ACROSS

1 Piece of music by which noodles may be taken in (10).

6 What a bespectacled girl examines nevertheless aims to get (4).

9 Return of penny demanded by Simon's pterid (10).

10 Mine at hospital clinic can supply (4).

12 Mark as a form of money (4).

13 Can a rod of iron (but not for nothing) enforce such laws? (9).

15 Secret mum repeated (4-4).

16 Corporation has article accepted by periodical (6).

18 Verses written as returning to port (6).

20 Jo's bottle? (8).

22 Bring into effect with a tool (9).

24 A doctor's bookmaker (4).

26 Instrument - not a true one, we hear (4).

27 Add one's mite to study what is due to Caesar (10).

28 Type of good man with a heart of gold (4).

29 A far from sedentary music-lover (10).

DOWN

1 Journalist's contribution is not original (4).

2 Extraordinarily cool set of cards (7).

3 Actor's version of what's

Anniversaries

Births: Charles I, reigned 1625-49, Dunfermline, 1600; Bertel Thorvaldsen, sculptor, Copenhagen, 1770; Vicomte Ferdinand de Lesseps, diplomat, promoter of the Suez Canal, Versailles, 1805; Hiram Bingham, archaeologist, Honolulu, 1875; Paul Hindemith, composer, Hanau, Germany, 1895.

Deaths: Nicolas Poussin, painter, Rome, 1665; Theobald Wolfe Tone, Irish republican, committed suicide, Dublin, 1798; Franz Schubert, Vienna, 1828; Sir William Siemens, metallurgist, London, 1883.

President Lincoln delivered a speech at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania - "... government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth..." 1863.

The pound

	Bank	Bank
	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	2.26	2.26
Austria Sch	21.20	20.80
Belgium F	62.70	59.10
Canada \$	2.14	2.15
Denmark Kr	11.30	10.70
France F	7.47	6.97
Germany DM	2.35	2.25
Greece Dr	202.00	212.00
Hong Kong \$	11.40	10.90
Ireland P	2.68	2.68
Italy Lira	2062.00	1962.00
Japan Yen	243.00	233.00
Netherlands Gld	3.27	3.15
Norway Kr	11.26	10.69
Portugal Esc	200.00	204.00
Spain Ptas	166.67	166.67
Switzerland Fr	193.00	183.00
Sweden Kr	10.28	9.73
Switzerland Fr	2.48	2.38
USA \$	1.56	1.47
Yugoslavia Dnr	670.00	710.00

Rates for small denominations bank notes only as quoted by Barclays Bank PLC. Differentials apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 388.4

London: The FT index closed down 5.9 at 1271.6.

Christmas post

Today is the latest recommended posting date for Christmas mail to St Helena.

Latest recommended dates for surface mail are fixed by the Post Office after taking account of available shipping deadline requirements of overseas administrations.

A special leaflet, *Christmas Mail 1986*, giving details of latest recommended posting dates for Christmas mail by air and surface, is now available.

The above instructions are applicable to both daily and weekly dividend claims.

Roads

The Midlands: M1: Roadworks continue between junctions 27 and 28 (Heazor/Mansfield); delays at peak periods.

M5: Contraflow between junctions 5 and 6 (Bromsgrove/Droitwich); A449: Contraflow at Crown Lane, Harlebury, Hereford and Worcester; also a speed restriction on this stretch; cars required at all times.

Wales and West: M5: Various lane restrictions and closures affecting both carriageways between junctions 20 (Clevedon) and 27 (Tiverton); A30: Contraflow operating on the Camborne bypass, Cornwall; A31: Traffic restrictions and delays at Ashleigh roundabout between Ringwood and Wimborne, Dorset.

The North: M6: Various lane restrictions and preparation for a contraflow between junctions 29 and 32 (Preston/M55); expect delays. M6.5: Construction work continues at Barton Bridge, Greater Manchester; various lane restrictions and slip road closures; avoid if possible; long peak hour delays. A1: Roadworks and contraflow between Felton and Harecray, Northumberland.

Scotland: M8: Roadworks causing congestion for traffic heading in and out of Springfield and Kirkintilloch. Tow-head avoid. A71: Traffic controls in Irvine Rd. E of Munro Ave, Kilmarnock, M90: Roadworks between junctions 3 (Halbath interchange) and 8 (Arlary interchange).

Weather forecast

A cold front over southern and eastern England will move slowly southeastwards as a ridge of high pressure extends across the British Isles.

6 am to midnight

London, SE England, East Anglia, Channel Islands: Cloudy with outbreaks of rain, becoming dry during the afternoon with sunny or clear intervals; wind SW fresh or strong becoming northerly light or moderate; max temp 10C (50F).

Central S, E, SW England, E Midlands: Becoming mainly dry in the morning with sunny or clear intervals; wind northerly light or moderate; max temp 10C (50F).

Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man: Sunny or clear intervals, perhaps some showers; wind NW light or moderate; max temp 10C (50F).

Central N, NE England: Mainly dry with sunny or clear periods; wind N light or moderate; max temp 9C (48F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dumfries, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Northern Ireland: Sunny or clear periods, a few showers, with sleet or snow on the mountains; wind NW moderate; max temp 9C (48F).

Glasgow, Central Highlands, NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland: Heavy showers, with sleet or snow on the mountains, some sunny intervals; wind NW or W, moderate or fresh occasionally strong; max temp 8C (46F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Showers in the N, mainly dry in the S but becoming cloudy with rain in the N and W later on Friday.

Sun rise: 7.25 am **Sun set:** 4.07 pm

Moon set: 10.53 am **Moon rise:** 5.28 pm

Last quarter: November 24

Lighting-up time

London 4.37 pm to 8.57 am
Bristol 4.46 pm to 7.26 am
Edinburgh 4.29 pm to 7.29 am
Manchester 4.37 pm to 7.13 am
Penzance 5.03 pm to 7.13 am

Portfolio Gold

Portfolio - how to play

Monday - Saturday - record your daily Portfolio total

And then, together, to determine your weekly Portfolio total

Weekly dividend (paid) on the published portfolio total (one of the prizes money raised for charity) will be drawn from the total of all portfolios.

You must have your card with you when you invest.

If you are unable to telephone us, you must have your card and call when you invest.

Between the stipulated times, you may request to be accepted for failure to complete the claims form.

For any reason within the stated hours above instructions are applicable to both daily and weekly dividend claims.

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Yesterday

Temperature at midday yesterday:	C	F
Belfast	10	50
Birmingham	8	46
Bristol	10	50
Cardiff	10	50
Edinburgh	10	50
London	10	50
Manchester	10	50
Newcastle	10	50
Nottingham	10	50
Sheffield	10	50
Southampton	10	50
Stockport	10	50
Wolverhampton	10	50

High Tides

NOON TODAY	Pressure	Winds	Temp	Humidity
London	1012	SW 10	10	70
Birmingham	1012	SW 10	10	70
Bristol	1012	SW 10	10	70
Cardiff	1012	SW 10	10	70
Edinburgh	1012	SW 10	10	70
London	1012	SW 10	10	70
Birmingham	1012	SW 10	10	70
Bristol	1012	SW 10	10	70
Cardiff	1012	SW 10	10	70
Edinburgh	1012	SW 10	10	70
London	1012	SW 10	10	70
Birmingham	1012	SW 10	10	70
Bristol	1012	SW 10	10	70
Cardiff	1012	SW 10	10	70
Edinburgh	1012	SW 10	10	70
London	1012	SW 10	10	70
Birmingham	1012	SW 10	10	70
Bristol	1012	SW 10	10	70
Cardiff	1012	SW 10	10	70
Edinburgh	1012	SW 10	10	70

Around Britain

Area	Sun	Rain	Max	Min	Wind	Temp	Humidity
Scarborough	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Birmingham	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Bristol	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Cardiff	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Edinburgh	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
London	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Manchester	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Newcastle	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Nottingham	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Sheffield	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Southampton	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Stockport	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Wolverhampton	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70

Abroad

Area	Sun	Rain	Max	Min	Wind	Temp	Humidity
Alicante	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Amsterdam	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Antwerp	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Berlin	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Bombay	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Buenos Aires	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Calcutta	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Cairo	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Cardiff	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Chicago	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Copenhagen	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Dublin	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Hankow	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Hong Kong	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
London	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Lyons	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Madras	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Manila	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Medan	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Mexico City	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Mumbai	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Nairobi	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Rangoon	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
San Francisco	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Singapore	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Sourabaya	4.5	11	52	32	b, c	10	70
Tientsin							

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET FT 30 Share 1271.6 (-8.9) FT-SE 100 1817.5 (-11.1) Bargains 23762 (26451) USM (Datastream) 129.99 (-0.11) THE POUND US Dollar 1.4240 (-0.0045) W German mark 2.8651 (-0.0105) Trade-weighted 68.2 (-0.3)

Shops call for rethink on credit

After recovering more than £9 million on about 19,000 overdue accounts in the year to August 31, the West Riding Trade Protection Association calls for a more responsible attitude towards consumer credit.

Settlement at Lloyd's

Lloyd's names who were on syndicate 868/35 in 1979 will be receiving a cheque at the end of the month following the settlement of Alexander Howden Underwriting Ltd's (AHUL) legal action against former syndicate underwriter Mr Colin Hart.

Siemens stable

Siemens electrical group and West Germany's second-biggest company, announced 1985-86 pretax profits of DM1.5 billion (£222 million), little changed from the previous year.

Metal Box up

Metal Box yesterday announced pretax profits for the half year to the end of September 1986 up 24 per cent to £38.6 million.

TSB success

The offer for sale of 49 per cent of the shares in TSB (Channel Islands) at 70p each was oversubscribed. The basis of allocation will be announced today.

MARKET SUMMARY STOCK MARKETS New York Dow Jones 1821.71 (-38.81) Tokyo Nikkei Dow 17273.53 (+65.38) Hang Seng 2248.57 (+7.08) Amsterdam Gen 280.3 (+1.9) Sydney AO 1214.8 (-11.9) Frankfurt Commerzbank 1975.2 (+3.3) Brussels General 3864.95 (+20.58) Paris CAC 3791.1 (-1.2) Zurich SKA Gen 644.0 (+1.40) London FT A 808.26 (-0.89) FT GtIs 81.32 (-0.11) Closing prices Page 29

Wall Street fear over contents of Boesky tapes

Mr Ivan Boesky, the disgraced American financier, is said to have agreed to gather evidence for federal officials by taping confidential conversations with business associates. The tapes could implicate some of Wall Street's biggest names in the investigation into US insider trading.

SEC called in to Collier inquiry

The US Securities and Exchange Commission has been called in to investigate the inquiry into suspected insider dealing by Mr Geoffrey Collier, it emerged yesterday. The Department of Trade and Industry, which began an investigation into the share dealings, has already been in contact with the SEC which has become involved because the deal was conducted through the US.

AE seeks identity of US shareholders

The beleaguered engineering group AE is making strenuous efforts to discover the beneficial owners of sizeable blocks of its shares which may be crucial in the outcome of the £271 million takeover bid for control of the company. It has served notice on the Wall Street investment house L F Rothschild to disclose the identity of several million AE shares purchased recently.

SE fails on arbitrage policy

The Stock Exchange yesterday failed to decide how it should instruct its members to respond to any approach to deal for Mr Ivan Boesky, the Wall Street arbitrator who faces a \$100 million (£70 million) penalty for insider dealing.

\$95m deal

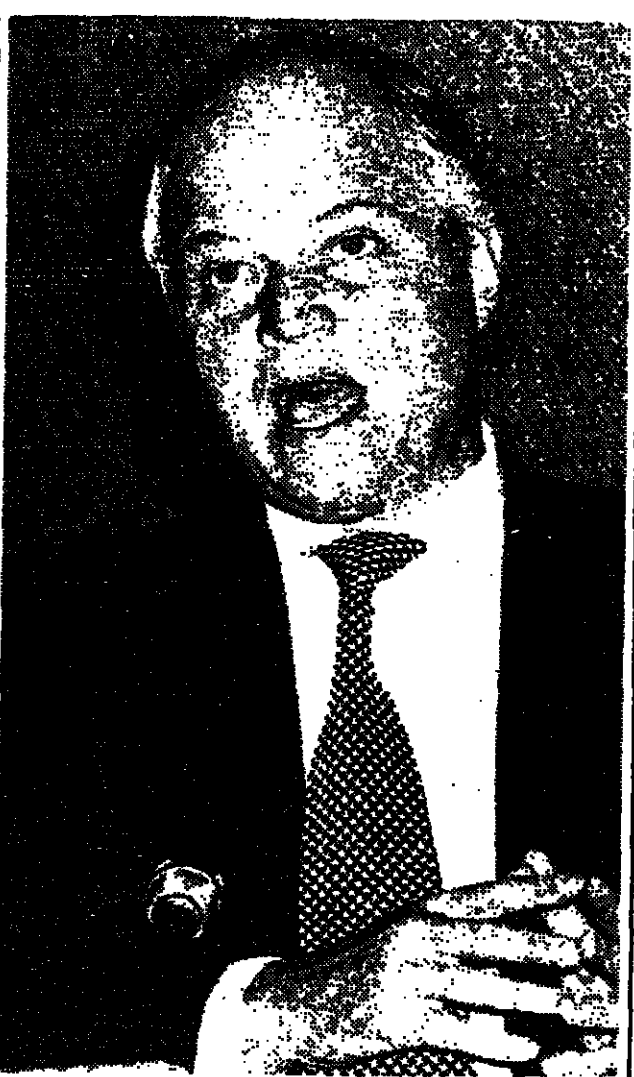
Debron Investments has conditionally agreed to pay \$95 million in cash for Guilford Industries, which is traded on the over-the-counter market in the US and quoted on Nasdaq.

Hillsdown buy

Hillsdown Holdings has acquired 51 per cent of Wirral Foods, a canned meat producer, for £928,200 in cash and shares. The remaining 49 per cent will be acquired over five years.

Steinberg lifts Mercury stake

A line of 5 million Mercury shares were bought through Alexander, Laing & Crickbank, the stockbroker, which would not comment on the buyer. A Mercury director said yesterday: "We cannot be totally certain that Mr Steinberg was the buyer, but we would be surprised if he was not. He did not warn us or consult us first. We do not know what he wants to do with his stake."



Sir James: urged US not to catch "the European disease"

Goldsmith defends US takeover bid

Sir James Goldsmith yesterday delivered an impassioned defence of his role in US takeovers, saying that his company was shaking up the entrenched "corporate" which is undermining American competitiveness. In a crowded room and before a largely hostile Congressional committee, Sir James said that America was in danger of catching "Europe's disease" which killed entrepreneurship on the Continent.

LIG interim profits up to £12.2m

Pretax profits at London International Group, the near-monopoly supplier of condoms in Britain, rose from £10.5 million to £12.2 million in the six months to September 30 as turnover rose 15 per cent to £128.9 million. The interim dividend was raised from 1.5p to 1.75p.

Staveley No.2 in US

Staveley Industries has conditionally agreed to acquire 51 per cent of Weigh-Tronix, the American company, for \$10.4 million (£7.28 million), the company announced. Staveley will simultaneously merge this business with its 56.9 per cent owned US subsidiary, National Controls Incorporated thus improving its position in the weighing machines market from number four to two.

Staveley No.2 in US

The new subsidiary will be given a \$5 million interest free loan for five years. Both Weigh-Tronix and NCI are quoted on the Nasdaq exchange. Part of the deal is to be met by the placing of 1.6 million new Staveley shares at 550p. The new shares represent 9.8 per cent of the existing share capital of the group. The balance will be met from group internal resources.

Staveley No.2 in US

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Government borrowing falls sharply

The public sector borrowing requirement, now the cornerstone of the Government's economic strategy, was just £9 million last month, compared with £2.09 billion in September. For the first seven months of the 1986-87 financial year, the PSBR was £5.7 billion, compared with £5.3 billion in the same period of last year. However, the Government will benefit from the privatization proceeds from British Gas, British Airways, and next month's redemption of £250 million of British Telecom preference shares in the remaining months of the financial year.

Record profits of £10m reverse flow at Thames

Thames Television, the largest British commercial television company, yesterday announced record mid-term pretax profits of £10.26 million, in its first set of results since its highly successful public flotation in June. The reversal of Thames's interim results from a corresponding £2.96 million loss in 1985 is attributable to the growth of total ITV advertising revenue and the increase of Thames's share in that revenue - from 14.7 per cent to 16.3 per cent. Turnover for the six months to September 30 was up by 29.1 per cent to £104.5 million. The company is paying an interim dividend of 4p - in line with its prospectus forecast of a minimum of 3p. Mr Hugh Dundas, the Thames chairman, said full-year profits would be "substantially ahead" of last year's £14.6 million. The company is still considering whether to exercise its option to purchase a 10 per cent stake in the new ITV Superchannel at a cost of more than £4 million. Thames's option expires on December 31. Mr Richard Dunn, the managing director, said that Thames had a number of concerns about its participation in the Superchannel, which aims to broadcast the cream of ITV and BBC programmes by satellite throughout Europe. Not least of these concerns was the extent to which Thames's film library - valued by some sources at £56 million - should be committed to the project. Temps, page 28

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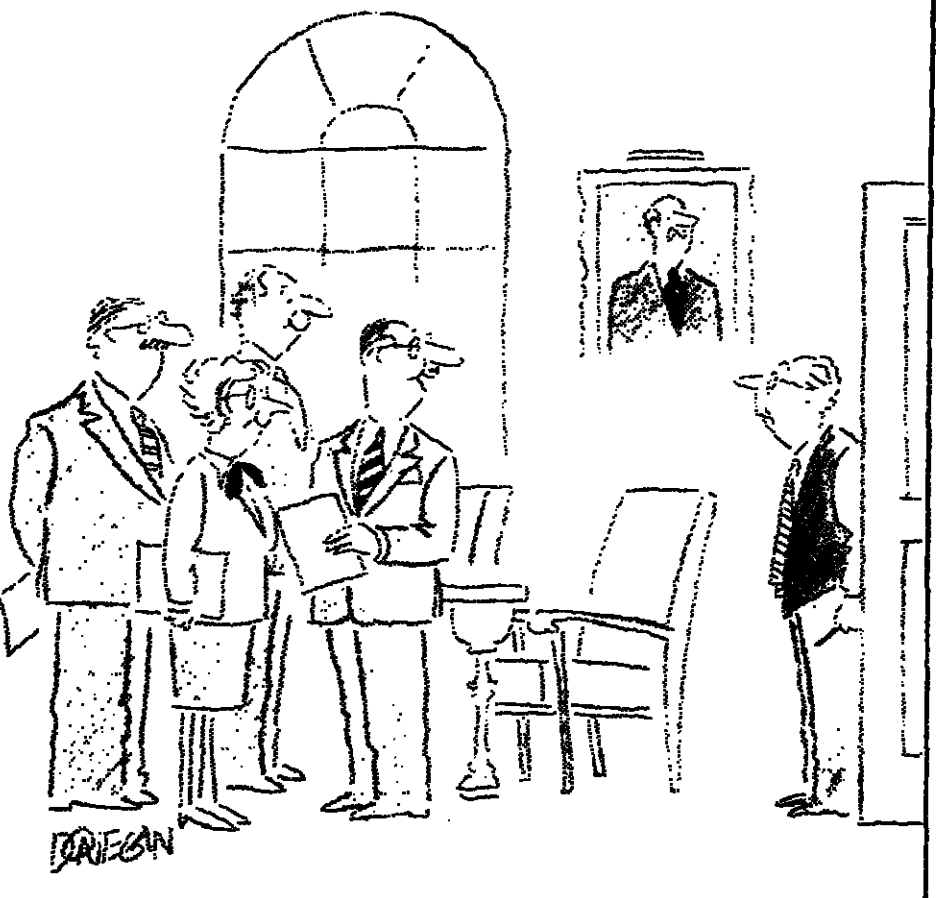
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Advertisement for King & Co. Real Estate. Text: "We're going to invest in commercial property, Foskett. Nip out and buy some, will you? Office blocks, warehouses, factories and shops - you know the sort of thing. North, south, north east, anywhere. And take your time. Take all day, if you like..." King & Co. 01-493 4933

WALL STREET

Insider dealing inquiry slows early trading

New York (Reuters) - Wall Street share prices were lower in moderate early trading yesterday. The widening investigation of the latest insider trading scandal to hit Wall Street kept many investors nervous and pressured stocks that rose in recent weeks on rumours of takeover or restructuring.

The Dow Jones industrial average, which fell 13 points on Monday was down 3.38 points at 1,857.14. Declining issues led shares by a margin of two to one on a volume of 16 million.

The transportation average was up 0.13 at 829.38, utilities at 209.29 were up 0.05, while

Table with columns for company names and stock prices. Includes entries like AMR, ASA, Allied Signal, Alcoa, etc.

Japan likely to cut its growth forecast

Tokyo (Reuters) - Japan is likely to admit defeat over attempts to revive its sluggish economy and will cut its growth forecast next month.

Japan's economic growth, they said, remained slow in the July-September quarter, at best only matching the 0.9 per cent increase in the previous three months.

One senior government economist said figures due out early next month were likely to show the economy grew between 1/2 a per cent and 1 per cent in the third quarter.

If that is correct, the Economic Planning Agency will probably lower its forecast of 4 per cent growth for the year ending next March, another government economist said.

The original forecast last December assumed a yen/dollar rate of 204. The yen has

been much stronger than that, cutting into Japan's exports and forcing companies to slash capital spending plans, private economists said.

A Bank of Japan official said the impact of the strong yen on manufacturing had been more serious than expected and outweighed the benefits of cuts in interest rates and import prices, particularly for oil.

Until now, the Japanese government has refused to alter its official forecast, saying it needed time to assess the impact of interest rate cuts and government moves to stimulate domestic demand.

Analysts said the Prime Minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, was worried that a reduction in the forecast would lead to American complaints that Japan was not doing enough to stimulate its economy.

But several government officials said the Economic Planning Agency had little choice but to reduce the forecast if it wanted to retain its credibility.

Knitwear recovery hit by imports

By Teresa Poole

The fragile recovery of the £1.4 billion British knitwear industry is threatened by a record surge in imports, the Knitting Industries Federation said yesterday.

In the past two months, British knitting companies, which employ 82,600, have made 500 redundancies and short-time working has increased.

Imports of knitted underwear - which includes sweaters and pullovers and is the largest sector of the market - doubled in the second quarter of this year.

That brought the increase for the first half to 52 per cent, compared with a marginal improvement in exports.

At the annual meeting of KIF, the president, Mr Lars Helgeson, also blamed the reduction in the value of the dollar.

He said it was "a cause of considerable dismay when our customers, as a consequence of exchange rate vagaries, switch more of their sourcing back to the Far East."

Imports from Hong Kong, Taiwan, and South Korea have shown large increases this year.

Mr Helgeson said that the recent jump in imports had happened despite the back-draw of heavy investment in new technology which enables British companies to respond quickly to market demands.

Halifax takes over Ulster estate agency

From Bob Rodwell, Belfast

The Halifax Building Society is to acquire Northern Ireland's largest estate agency, Brian Morton.

The acquisition will take effect next February at the start of the society's new financial year and after the Building Societies Act becomes law.

It is the second step in the Halifax's plan to establish a network of 200 estate agency offices throughout Britain by the end of next year.

It has announced already its impending acquisition of Henry Spencer's 20 estate agency offices in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire.

Fletcher King set for flotation

By Judith Huntley, Commercial Property Correspondent

Fletcher King, the West End-based firm of commercial estate agents is to come to the market via an offer for sale of 2.26 million shares, representing 33.3 per cent of the company, at 175p per share.

The directors, the present partners of the company, will retain 66.7 per cent.

Fletcher King follows Baker Harris Saunders Group, the firm specializing in City of London property, to the stock market. But unlike Baker Harris it has a wide geographical spread of business and a range of institutional investment clients, some of whom would have liked to buy the 33 per cent.

The offer will raise £622.500 net of new money.

Government 'shares in North Sea confidence'

By Our Own Correspondent

The Government yesterday sought to instil new confidence in the battered North Sea oil industry.

Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, the energy minister, said it was fashionable to knock the industry, but some forecasts of job losses in oil and associated industries were "incorrect and irresponsible."

He told delegates at the West of Scotland Oil Conference at Glasgow: "Of course, we face difficult times, particularly those businessmen supplying goods and services the industry demands. But all is not doom and gloom; there will continue to be many opportunities open to tough, competitive companies."

Mr Buchanan-Smith said that 58 exploration wells were started this year, only three fewer than in the same period last year. Appraisal wells numbered 33, against 40 in 1985.

He said he had approved 12 new developments this year, including Conoco's £650 million V Fields and British Petroleum's £760 million Villages Fields.

"This is hardly the story of an industry in retreat. Looking ahead, the deadline for tenth round licence applications is fast approaching. The prime objectives of the round are to maintain the momentum of exploration activity and to provide the potential for developments in the 1990s to replace existing fields as they start to decline."

Epic buys £6.5 million property portfolio

By Our Commercial Property Correspondent

The Estates Property Investment Company has bought a £6.57 million portfolio of properties from an unnamed vendor, which will be paid in the form of 4.16 million new Epic shares, representing 16.7 per cent of the company's issued share capital.

Baring Brothers, the merchant bank, is to place the shares with institutional and other investors at 158p per share.

The properties, throughout Britain, show an income of £777,765 a year and have been individually valued as being worth £6.99 million.

Hammerson Property Development and Investment Corporation and Guaranty Properties have sold 825 acres of their 2,000-acre land bank in Mississippi, a suburb of Toronto, to a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Orlando Corporation for Can\$44 million (£22.22 million).

EEC to integrate networks

From Richard Owen, Brussels

Telephone and telecommunications equipment throughout the EEC is to be integrated and standardized to give telephone users within the community access to a range of sophisticated services.

Mr Giles Shaw, the industry minister, who was chairman of a meeting of EEC industry ministers looking into the subject, warmly welcomed the decision yesterday.

He said integrating EEC telecommunications systems would "take a little while," but the result would bring enormous benefits to businessmen, private users and equipment manufacturers.

He added that the move was symbolic of EEC and British determination to complete the internal market by 1992.

EEC officials said the new system should be in operation by 1988, but it would be up to the 12 national telecommunications authorities, including British Telecom, to co-operate on the technical details, at an estimated additional cost to the EEC of £5 billion.

The new system is known as the integrated services digital network (ISDN).

The EEC is to use the experience of the Bundespost, the West German equivalent of British Telecom, which has developed ISDN techniques in collaboration with Siemens. It makes use of existing technology to enable subscribers anywhere in the community to plug into services such as fax, high speed computer data, enhanced voice quality circuits, an evening video and image transmission.

The EEC officials predict reduced costs as a result of the integration. The next phase of integration after ISDN will involve optical fibres and satellites instead of existing copper cables.

The main aim of ISDN is to ensure that the EEC can compete with America and Japan in the telecommunications market, which is expected to be worth £140 billion by the end of this decade.

Half-time profits soar at WCRS

By Alison Eadie

WCRS Group, the old Wright Collins Rutherford Scott (Holdings) and Britain's second largest advertising agency, produced pretax profits of £3.5 million for the six months to October, compared with only £547,000 for the last first half.

Turnover was up from £25.8 million to £143.5 million. The results included a four-month contribution from HBM-Cremer, a leading American advertising agency and public relations consultancy, four months from FCO, a London consumer agency, and one month from Della Femina Travissina, another American agency.

There was strong organic growth in Britain, the company said. WCRS announced the acquisition of Siebert/Head, a British package design consultancy. It will cost between £1.26 million and £2.1 million depending on profits between now and 1989.

The interim dividend was raised to 1.85p from 1.07p. The outlook for the second half is strong. The company expects to make more international acquisitions and expand into marketing services.

CANADIAN PRICES

Table listing Canadian prices for various commodities like Agropac, Agropac 27, Agropac 29, etc.

PLESSEY HOTLINE PLESSEY H

System X celebrates 2 million lines accepted

To mark the acceptance of two million telephone exchange lines of System X, Plessey and GEC have presented a gold plated System X line card to British Telecom.

A further two million lines are currently being delivered by Plessey and GEC.

These four million lines so far supplied to British Telecom represent 20 per cent of its planned replacement of the UK's public telephone network.

During the last twelve months, in the UK alone, orders have been placed for 2.2 million lines of System X putting it third in the world-ordering league table for digital public switching.

Plessey and GEC are working closely together to win System X orders in the export market. Opportunities are being actively pursued in the Far East, Middle East, South America and the Eastern Bloc.

Plessey recently made telecommunications history with a live demonstration of two million lines of System X at the Plovdiv Trade Fair in Bulgaria.

£2m ISDX network for Oman

A £2m communications network to link the air, land and sea forces of Oman is to be provided by Plessey, following nine months of negotiations.

The network will employ several inter-working Plessey ISDX exchanges involving some 6,000 telephone lines, with the possibility of further exchanges when the network is expanded.

The contract is the biggest of its type won by Plessey in the Middle East. It will involve Plessey engineers in its installation and maintenance.

WAVELL READY FOR RHINE ARMY

Plessey has completed the latest phase of Wavell, the world's first computer system for improved tactical command and control on the battlefield.

This was achieved with the recent handover to the British Army of the 32nd vehicle fitted with Wavell equipment.

It fulfils the £45 million production order placed by the Ministry of Defence in November, 1983, for 16 tracked and 16 wheeled vehicles equipped with the Wavell system.

Most of these vehicles will be based in Germany with the British Army of the Rhine and will use the Plurmig trunk communications system, also supplied by Plessey.

Total value of Plessey work for Wavell to date amounts to £80 million.

New landing system for Heathrow trials

A Plessey P-SCAN Microwave Landing System (MLS) has been installed at London Heathrow Airport by the UK Civil Aviation Authority.

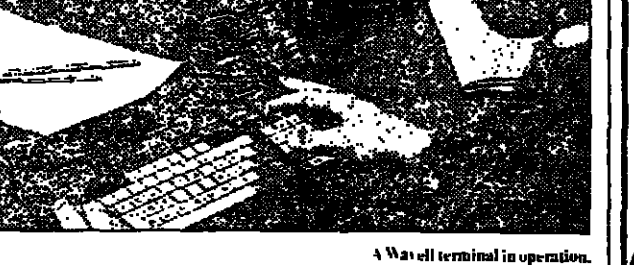
The system will be used for trials within the programme by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) to gain experience of MLS in a busy airport environment.

This forms part of an extensive UK technical and operational evaluation of MLS.

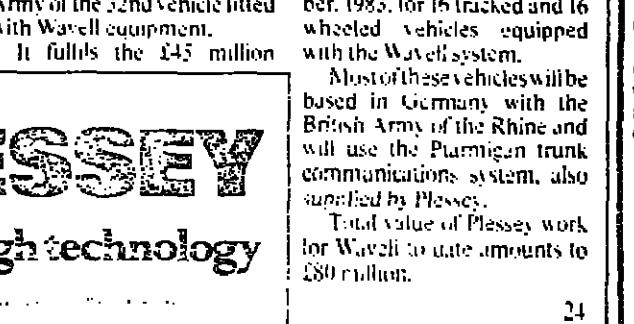
STANDARD APPROACH MLS is scheduled to become the preferred ICAO standard approach aid in 1998.

Two Plessey P-SCAN systems have been delivered to the UK CAA and technical trials have already commenced at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Bedford.

However, a considerable amount of work remains to be undertaken by ICAO and its working panels, particularly the All Weather Operations Panel, on technical and operational aspects of both the ground and airborne equipments.



A Wavell terminal in operation.



The height of high technology

COMPANY NEWS

INFRA-RED ASSOCIATES: Figures for 1986 for the half year ending 31st. Turnover was 1,608 (1,285). Pretax profit was 371 (347). Earnings per share were 3.12c (3.38). No interim dividend. Orders received in the first six months were 40 per cent higher than for the same period last year. The company is proceeding with its expansion programme envisaged in its placing document.

RIVERVIEW RUBBER ESTATES: There is an interim dividend of 10 pence (less 40 pence Malaysian income tax) in respect of the financial year ending December 31.

GALACTIC RESOURCES: The company's working capital increased from £2.06 million in December 1985 to £12.533 million for September 30 1986.

LONDON SECURITIES: Figures for 1986 for the six months to September 30. Turnover was 990 (480), pretax profit was 51 (loss 12) and earnings per share were 0.28p (a loss of 0.11p a share). The board is confident about future prospects and the company has entered a period of prosperity.

NATIONAL HOME LOANS: The company has appointed S G Warburg and Co to arrange a £200 million loan facility. The new arrangement, in addition to other banking facilities, is designed to support the company's growing mortgage business.

CONCENTRIC: The final dividend is 2.94p, making 4.50p (3.70p) for the year to September 30. Figures for 1986. Sales were 58,445 (55,761), pretax profit was 3,286 (2,351) and earnings per share were 10.56p (7.45p). The chairman, Mr Tony Firth, reports that all areas of the business are trading well for the year.

S & U STORES: Figures for the six months to July 31. No interim dividend. Turnover was £18,164 (17,708) and pretax profit was £526 (333). The results indicate a significant increase for the year.

BARLOW RAND: Final dividend was 56c, making 80c (70c) for the year to September 30. Figures in rand millions. Turnover was 14,622.7 (12,240.7), pretax profit was 1,082.9 (841.2) and profit after tax was 845.5 (546.1). Earnings per share were 312.3 (164.5). The group traded well this year in spite of the economic and political pressures that faced South Africa.

DELTA: The group has substantial cash holdings and if these were to be offset against borrowings within the companies concerned, the debt/equity ratio would improve to 43 per cent.

STAKE DRUG STORES: Mr Alan Prince, chairman, is confident that the drug store has an increasing role to play in the high street. Nine new stores have been opened this year.

TISON'S (CONTRACTORS): Figures for the six months to June 30. Turnover was £14,110,736 (£11,461,162). Loss before tax was £67,915 (£419,607 loss). Loss per share was 1.36p (6.39p). The reserves at December 31 1985 have been increased to reflect an accounting error in 1985 audited accounts.

SAC INTERNATIONAL: Final dividend 1.35p, making 2p for the year ending August 31. With figures in £000, turnover was 10,127 (16,076). Gross profit 3,900 (3,995). Administration costs 2,154 (2,086) interest payable 87 (167) profit before tax 1,659 (1,095) tax 647 (468) earnings per shares 8.15p (5.91p).

DILOMA: Dividend 4p (same) making 5.25p (same) for year to September 30. Figures £millions. Turnover 93.2 (92.3) profit 11.8 (15.5) share of related companies profit 0.7 (nil) pretax profit 12.5 (15.5) tax 4.9 (6.5) minority interests 0.4 (0.4) net profit 7.2 (8.4) extraordinary items after tax 0.1 (0.9 credit) earnings per shares before extraordinary items 13.1p (15.9p).

MWT COMPUTING: Final dividend was 3.2p (2.8p) making 5p (4p) for the year to August 31. Figures in £000s. Turnover was 2,240 (1,464), profit was 720 (432), tax was 273 (192) and earnings per share were 22.4p (12p).

CML MICROSYSTEMS: For the six months to September 30, with figures in £000 turnover was 3,416 (2,824), pretax profit was 902 (783), tax was 345 (271), minority interest debt was 35 (35) attributable to shareholders 524 (372) and earnings per share were 6.1p (4.3p).

NEW CAVENTISH ESTATES: The company has acquired from Stirling Properties 39,153 ordinary shares of Bradley Court at £2.50 per share costing £97,883. The company has subscribed in cash for 138,694 new shares at £2.50 each, costing £346,735 in Bradley Court.

ABBECREST: For the 12 months to August 31 there is a second interim 1.5p, making 2.5p for the period. A final for the four month period to December 31 is to follow. The group is changing its year end to reflect its operating cycle.

NORSAT INTERNATIONAL: The Canadian satellite communications company, has reached agreements subject to regulatory approval for the private placement of 500,000 shares at Can\$0.60 a share.

LAWRIE GROUP: For the half year to June 30, with figures in £000. A pretax profit of 2,019 (4,352) was recorded on turnover of 2,864 (3,124). Group operating profit, excluding interests in Bangladesh, was 454 (821), investment and other income was 1,458 (1,377), profit on sales of fixed assets was 110 (2,174), interest payable and exchange losses were 3 (20), minority interests were 2 (2) and earnings per share were 55.27p (142.38p).

MEPC: The Drapers' Company, in partnership with MEPC, has acquired the existing lease of 25 Austin Friars, London EC2. MEPC is to be granted a lease of 127 years

permitting redevelopment once the building has been vacated.

AGA: The company has announced the acquisition of area companies, of Hammond, Indiana. The company does not foresee any big changes for Hammond, which has 30 employees and had sales of \$9 million.

FLETCHER CHALLENGE: The previous offer has been withdrawn and a new offer submitted in the name of a wholly-owned subsidiary to acquire the shares in N Z Forest Products. The terms provide flexibility for acceptances below a 51 per cent shareholding.

COURTNEY POPE HOLDINGS: The company has acquired a metal finishing company, Better Electro-Plating, and its associate company Barrel Platers (London) for £250,000 of which £100,000 will be satisfied by the issue of ordinary shares in Courtney Pope.

AEGON INSURANCE GROUP: The company has launched a Euro-yeen 5 billion euro/dollar dual currency bond issue. The bonds have a five year maturity and are not callable before maturity. The coupon is 7 per cent per annum, payable in yen, and the issue is priced at \$101.78 per cent. At maturity the bonds will be redeemed in US dollars at the fixed rate of \$162.5, giving a redemption amount of approximately \$30.7 million. Proceeds of the issue will be used to refinance existing short-term debt.

TOD: At the annual meeting, the chief executive, Mr John Lind, reported that results for the first quarter of the new financial year were in line with expectations, with good prospects based upon recently secured new contracts.

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For further information and the current prospectuses, please complete and return this coupon to: Robin Fuller, N M Rothschild Asset Management (C.I.) Limited, P.O. Box 242, St. Julian's Court, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands. Telephone: Guernsey (0481) 264711.

Name _____ Address _____ A&S N M ROTHSCHILD ASSET MANAGEMENT



THE MINISTRY OF THE NAVY OF THE FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL BRAZILIAN NAVAL COMMISSION IN EUROPE (BNCE) NOTICE OF PUBLIC TENDER NR. 069/86

Notice is hereby given that the Brazilian Naval Commission in Europe with offices at:
170 Upper Richmond Road
London SW15 2SH
Tel: (01) 788 8111
Tlx: 918851

is accepting tenders for the rendering of forwarding and Clearing Services, on behalf of the Brazilian Navy. The following events will take place at the above address:

Order	Date	Time	Event
1st	08.12.86		Latest date for submission of qualifying documents as well as the actual tender.
2nd	10.12.86	11:00	Opening and authentication of the sealed envelopes containing the tenders by the Commission of Tender and the representatives of the interested parties, whom are invited to attend.
3rd	15.12.86		Award of the winner tender by the President of the BNCE.

The details of the exact nature and extent of the services to be rendered are given at the BNCE or, at request, by post. For further information you may require, please contact Mr. J.R. Dias, ext. 33.

Oscar Moreira da Silva
President Tenders Commission

MONEY & GOLD

Period rates ended the day little changed, though there was some firming in the year interbank rate. This was mainly prompted by a weaker pound, but overall markets were fairly quiet. Sterling CDs ended little changed. The trend towards higher base rates continued to underlie markets, but dealers are almost totally devoid of any fresh factors which could prompt fresh activity.

Rate	Rate	Rate
Clearing Banks 11	11.50	11.50
Finance House 11	11.50	11.50
Discount Market Loans %	10.50	10.50
Overnight High 10% Low 5	10.50	10.50
Week fixed 10% - 5%	10.50	10.50
Treasury Bills (Discount %)	10.50	10.50
3 month 10%	10.50	10.50
6 month 10%	10.50	10.50
12 month 10%	10.50	10.50
Foreign Bank Bills (Discount %)	10.50	10.50
1 month 10% - 10%	10.50	10.50
3 month 10% - 10%	10.50	10.50
6 month 10% - 10%	10.50	10.50
12 month 10% - 10%	10.50	10.50
Trade Bills (Discount %)	10.50	10.50
1 month 11%	10.50	10.50
3 month 11%	10.50	10.50
6 month 11%	10.50	10.50
12 month 11%	10.50	10.50
Interbank %	10.50	10.50
Overnight open 10% close 10	10.50	10.50
1 week 10% - 10%	10.50	10.50
1 month 10% - 10%	10.50	10.50
3 month 11% - 11%	10.50	10.50
6 month 11% - 11%	10.50	10.50
12 month 11% - 11%	10.50	10.50
Local Authority Deposits (%)	10.50	10.50
2 days 10%	10.50	10.50
1 month 10%	10.50	10.50
3 month 11%	10.50	10.50
6 month 11%	10.50	10.50
12 month 11%	10.50	10.50
Local Authority Bonds (%)	10.50	10.50
1 month 11% - 11%	10.50	10.50
3 month 11% - 11%	10.50	10.50
6 month 11% - 11%	10.50	10.50
12 month 11% - 11%	10.50	10.50
Starting CDs (%)	10.50	10.50
1 month 10% - 10%	10.50	10.50
3 month 11% - 11%	10.50	10.50
6 month 11% - 11%	10.50	10.50
12 month 11% - 11%	10.50	10.50
Dollar CDs (%)	10.50	10.50
1 month 10% - 10%	10.50	10.50
3 month 10% - 10%	10.50	10.50
6 month 10% - 10%	10.50	10.50
12 month 10% - 10%	10.50	10.50
EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %	10.50	10.50
Dollar 3-6	10.50	10.50
7 days 6-8	10.50	10.50
3 month 6-8	10.50	10.50
6 month 6-8	10.50	10.50
12 month 6-8	10.50	10.50
Deutsche mark 3-6	10.50	10.50
7 days 6-8	10.50	10.50
3 month 6-8	10.50	10.50
6 month 6-8	10.50	10.50
12 month 6-8	10.50	10.50
French franc 3-6	10.50	10.50
7 days 6-8	10.50	10.50
3 month 6-8	10.50	10.50
6 month 6-8	10.50	10.50
12 month 6-8	10.50	10.50
Swiss franc 3-6	10.50	10.50
7 days 6-8	10.50	10.50
3 month 6-8	10.50	10.50
6 month 6-8	10.50	10.50
12 month 6-8	10.50	10.50
Yen 3-6	10.50	10.50
7 days 6-8	10.50	10.50
3 month 6-8	10.50	10.50
6 month 6-8	10.50	10.50
12 month 6-8	10.50	10.50
GOLD		
Gold-SBI 00-391.50		
Rosemount per ounce		
\$365.50-391.50 (\$272.75-274.75)		
Sovereigns (new)		
\$175.50-180.00 (\$125-126.00)		
Pakistan		
\$489.00 (\$343.75)		
*Excludes VAT		
ECGD		
Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance		
Scheme IV Average reference rate for		
interest period October 8, 1986 to		
October 31, 1986 inclusive: 11.257 per		
cent.		

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
Oct 29	Oct 31	Jan 22	Feb 2
Nov 3	Nov 14	Feb 5	Feb 18
Nov 17	Nov 28	Feb 12	Mar 2

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Three Month Sterling	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Oct 29	88.71	88.72	88.67	88.71	2231
Nov 3	88.80	88.97	88.90	88.92	474
Nov 17	89.05	89.31	89.30	89.31	914
Nov 28	89.29	89.31	89.27	89.28	30
Dec 9	89.27	89.31	89.27	89.28	30
Dec 23	89.01	89.05	89.03	89.03	159
Mar 8	89.72	89.72	89.72	89.73	12

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Market rates	Market rates	1 month	3 months
NY 1.4190-1.4245	1.4235-1.4245	0.75-0.45pram	2.00-1.50pram
London 1.9832-1.9711	1.9832-1.9711	0.60-0.35pram	1.55-1.20pram
Ame dem 2.255-2.2470	2.255-2.2470	2-1/2pram	5-4pram
Brussels 59.53-59.79	59.53-59.79	30-10pram	70-40pram
Cyprus 10.825-10.830	10.827-10.8318	2-1/2pram	5-3pram
Dublin 1.054-1.054	1.054-1.054	2-1/2pram	5-4pram
Frankfurt 2.861-2.8745	2.861-2.8745	1-1/2pram	4-1/2pram
Hong Kong 2.117-2.118	2.117-2.118	2-1/2pram	5-4pram
India 192.75-193.53	192.84-193.16	18-30pram	205-327pram
Japan 192.75-193.53	192.75-193.53	18-30pram	205-327pram
Madrid 192.75-193.53	192.75-193.53	18-30pram	205-327pram
Mexico 10.825-10.830	10.827-10.8318	2-1/2pram	5-3pram
Paris 2.3750-2.4100	2.3750-2.4100	3-2pram	7-5pram
Singapore 8.860-8.8625	8.860-8.8625	1-1/2pram	5-4pram
Tokyo 231.00-232.02	231.53-231.91	1-1/2pram	4-1/2pram
West 30.15-30.23	30.15-30.23	10-1/2pram	23-25pram
Zurich 238.22-238.20	238.22-238.20	1-1/2pram	4-1/2pram

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral	1.8550-1.8419	Ireland	1.9480-1.9310
Australia dollar <td>2.2102-2.2137</td> <td>Singapore <td>2.1825-2.1935</td> </td>	2.2102-2.2137	Singapore <td>2.1825-2.1935</td>	2.1825-2.1935
Belgian franc <td>0.5255-0.5385</td> <td>Malaysia <td>2.8255-2.8245</td> </td>	0.5255-0.5385	Malaysia <td>2.8255-2.8245</td>	2.8255-2.8245
Brazil cruzeiro <td>19.50-20.07</td> <td>Norway <td>0.8427-0.8432</td> </td>	19.50-20.07	Norway <td>0.8427-0.8432</td>	0.8427-0.8432
Cyprus pound <td>0.7295-0.7395</td> <td>Sweden <td>1.3531-1.3538</td> </td>	0.7295-0.7395	Sweden <td>1.3531-1.3538</td>	1.3531-1.3538
Denmark <td>7.1919-7.0950</td> <td>Switzerland <td>7.3300-7.3300</td> </td>	7.1919-7.0950	Switzerland <td>7.3300-7.3300</td>	7.3300-7.3300
Finland markka <td>19.50-20.07</td> <td>West Germany <td>7.8175-7.8225</td> </td>	19.50-20.07	West Germany <td>7.8175-7.8225</td>	7.8175-7.8225
France franc <td>195.80-197.80</td> <td>Denmark <td>1.6785-1.6775</td> </td>	195.80-197.80	Denmark <td>1.6785-1.6775</td>	1.6785-1.6775
Hong Kong dollar <td>11.0821-11.1007</td> <td>Netherlands <td>6.5670-6.5620</td> </td>	11.0821-11.1007	Netherlands <td>6.5670-6.5620</td>	6.5670-6.5620
India rupee <td>18.00-18.10</td> <td>Spain <td>162.90-162.90</td> </td>	18.00-18.10	Spain <td>162.90-162.90</td>	162.90-162.90
Indonesia rupiah <td>1.1921-1.1907</td> <td>France <td>6.5670-6.5620</td> </td>	1.1921-1.1907	France <td>6.5670-6.5620</td>	6.5670-6.5620
Iran riyal <td>0.4185-0.4180</td> <td>Italy <td>1.188-1.187</td> </td>	0.4185-0.4180	Italy <td>1.188-1.187</td>	1.188-1.187
Israel sheqel <td>3.8900-3.7100</td> <td>Japan <td>162.90-162.90</td> </td>	3.8900-3.7100	Japan <td>162.90-162.90</td>	162.90-162.90
Kenya shilling <td>11.0821-11.1007</td> <td>Netherlands <td>6.5670-6.5620</td> </td>	11.0821-11.1007	Netherlands <td>6.5670-6.5620</td>	6.5670-6.5620
Malaysia dollar <td>2.8255-2.8245</td> <td>Belgium (Comm) <td>41.88-41.93</td> </td>	2.8255-2.8245	Belgium (Comm) <td>41.88-41.93</td>	41.88-41.93
Mexico peso <td>11.0821-11.1007</td> <td>Hong Kong <td>7.8020-7.8025</td> </td>	11.0821-11.1007	Hong Kong <td>7.8020-7.8025</td>	7.8020-7.8025
New Zealand dollar <td>2.3750-2.4100</td> <td>Portugal <td>149.25-149.75</td> </td>	2.3750-2.4100	Portugal <td>149.25-149.75</td>	149.25-149.75
Saudi Arabia riyal <td>5.3005-5.2405</td> <td>Spain <td>135.75-135.90</td> </td>	5.3005-5.2405	Spain <td>135.75-135.90</td>	135.75-135.90
Singapore dollar <td>3.1170-3.1207</td> <td>Austria <td>14.17-14.19</td> </td>	3.1170-3.1207	Austria <td>14.17-14.19</td>	14.17-14.19
South Africa rand <td>5.1905-5.2305</td> <td></td> <td></td>	5.1905-5.2305		
UK £ sterling <td>1.0000-1.0000</td> <td></td> <td></td>	1.0000-1.0000		
Lloyds Bank <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>			

Notes supplied by Barclays Bank HOPEX and Exel.

TEMPUS

Plastics could mould Metal Box's future

Thanks to the boffins at Metal Box, your children can now squirt tomato ketchup around the room by squeezing the bottle rather than by shaking or hitting it. The plastic "lamicon" bottles, which can be transported without refrigeration, are part of the new generation of products at Metal Box.

Metal Box leads the field with its technical prowess and is at the forefront of new product development. This enhances trading performance and allows the group to charge others for the use of its expertise. Plastics account for only half the business that metals generate but twice as much as research and development expenditure. New ventures have been financed mainly by cash generated in the more established parts of the business. These include Genesis Packaging in the US.

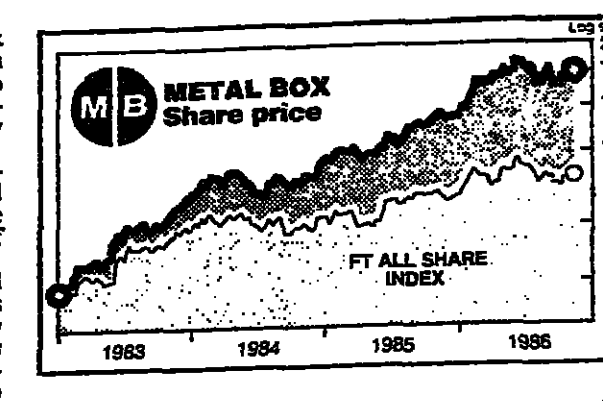
Metal Box's 50 per cent share in Genesis, which is costing \$50 million (£25 million), should earn \$14 million a year by 1990. However, the events surrounding Libya and at Chernobyl also made it a gruesome period for Royal Worcester Spode, LIG's fine china company. Profits in Britain fell sharply as well-heeled Americans spent the summer at home. Although things have improved in the second half, full-year profits from RWS are likely to be less than last year's £3.6 million.

The failure to net Wedgwood might not turn out to be such a disaster, especially as it earned LIG £8 million in one-off profits. LIG still has much in its favour. The monopoly for condoms will prove good as the Government anti-Aids campaign gathers pace, while the expansion of the photo-processing division in Europe should take the sting out of the fine china downturn.

However, there is a case for trimming full-year pretax forecasts slightly from the £28 million pencilled in before yesterday. This puts the shares, down 8p to 239p, on a prospective p/e of about 17, which looks a little high for the time being.

Thames Television

As public debts go, Thames Television can hardly be beaten. Floated with an offer price of 190 pence in June, a 17 times oversubscription



remained so until the new generation of products begins to put money in the bank.

London Int

London International is trying to dampen some of the Aids-related hysteria that has pushed its shares to record highs. Its interim results were at the low end of expectations, partly because the effect on condom sales so far has been exaggerated. Moreover, the events surrounding Libya and at Chernobyl also made it a gruesome period for Royal Worcester Spode, LIG's fine china company.

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RECENT ISSUES

Series	Call	Put	Series	Call	Put	
Alfred Lyons	300 25 25 43	9 14 22	Lon Assc Inv Trst (14p)	8 1/2 +1	Velverton (28p)	182 -3
BP (68p)	600 107 123	2 11	Lloyds Chemist (105p)	128 -4	Yorkshire TV (25p)	182 -3
Com Gold (68p)	600 95 110	22 22	Marborough Tech (110p)	144	RIGHTS ISSUES	
Courtaulds (310)	250 56 67	1 2	Mecca Leisure (135p)	144 -1 1/2	Blue Arrow F/P	384 -2
Com Union (267)	250 20 27	7 13 15	Miller & Santhouse (105p)	184	Br. Brown F/P	15 -1
Cable & Wire (302)	350 11 21	10 30 40	Newage Trans (75p)	71	Coak Cwm N/P	11 -1
GEC (181)	150 27 32	36 24 1 7	Quinto (85p)	100	Elwick N/P	23 -1
Grand Met (443)	350 86 100	1 3	Sandell Perkins (135p)	174 -1	FRG Group F/P	11 -1
ICI (1049)	1000 125 145	5 12 15	Saxat Midge 100% s25	219	Cap F/P	13 -1
Land Sec (329)	350 4 11	14 35 38	TSB Group (100p)	79 1/2	Petrolan N/P	4 -1
Marks & Spen (719)	150 16 26	34 3 6 10	Thames TV (190p)	324 -2	Rendell N/P	45 -2
Shell Trans (755)	850 122 142	180 4 15 22	Treas 10% c91 s25.50	239 -1	Sheba F/P	16 -5
Trafalgar House (280)	250 15 25	33 14 18 23	Whitney Mackay (150p)	168	Wedding N/P	16 -5
TSB (79)	80 2 4	8 12 13 14	Wooltons Better (104p)	96		

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Series	Call	Put	Series	Call	Put
Alfred Lyons	300 25 25 43	9 14 22	Agar	500 28 48 68	17 28 35
BP (68p)	600 107 123	2 11	Thom EMI (470)	420 70 80 100	2 5 9
Com Gold (68p)	600 95 110	22 22	Tesco (35p)	330 80 50	7 8
Courtaulds (310)	250 56 67	1 2	TSB	300 10 20 40	12 22 25
Com Union (267)	250 20 27	7 13 15	Brit Aero (482)	420 63 80 90	4 9 15
Cable & Wire (302)	350 11 21	10 30 40	BSA	420 23 45 60	12 22 25
GEC (181)	150 27 32	36 24 1 7	BAT Inds (456)	380 95 108	1 1/2 1 1/2
Grand Met (443)	350 86 100	1 3	Bardays (470)	480 10 42 55	1 13 23
ICI (1049)	1000 125 145	5 12 15	Brit Telecom (195)	500 1 20 35 37 45	27 45
Land Sec (329)	350 4 11	14 35 38	Cadbury Schweppes (178)	180 19 30 34	6 8
Marks & Spen (719)	150 16 26	34 3 6 10	Guinness (329)	300 30 42 47	6 10
Shell Trans (755)	850 122 142				

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Main table containing unit trust information with columns for fund names, bid/offer prices, and percentage changes. Includes sub-sections for various fund categories like Equity, Bond, and Money Market.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table of unlisted securities with columns for company names, bid/offer prices, and percentage changes. Includes a sub-section for 'FINANCIAL TRUSTS'.

Where stocks have only one price quoted, these are middle prices taken daily at 5pm. Yield, change and P/E are calculated on the middle price

GROVES

MARSHES

10

RAY WINS

Handwritten scribble or signature at the bottom of the page.

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

Country cottage in the capital

Rose Cottage, in Crabtree Lane, Fulham, south-west London, was a country cottage even in the 17th century.

The Malthouse at Roper, in a Grade II listed country house dating from the 17th century, with Georgian additions, and recent improvements.

North London thatched

Not only is a country cottage for sale in Fulham, Winkworth's Palmers Green office in north London, a part best-known for its 1930s semi, is offering two houses unusual in the area.

The Coach House on Cannon Hill is a 19th-century, timber-framed, brick mill house with a weatherboard exterior.

The thatched three-bedroom property on Cannon Hill is part of a period house split some years ago. The thatch is in good condition, having been replaced in the last five years, and the house, with a 60ft garden, is for sale at £195,000.

The Pavilion on the Links, a house which inspired Robert Louis Stevenson's work of that name and overlooks the island of Fulda, which may, say the agents, have been his Treasury Island, is for sale. Best-known of Edinburgh is asking more than £175,000 for the 20-acre estate.

Long and short of it

The Long House in Strand Street, Sandwich, Kent, is a Grade II listed house of timber-frame construction, dating from the 17th century, and situated in the centre of this Cinque Port.



The £10m house of lords

By Christopher Warman Property Correspondent

Ancaster House, in Chesterfield Gardens, off Curzon Street, Mayfair, used to be plain Number 8 until its total renovation and launching on to the market today.

It might have been renamed Islington House after the MP Sir John Dickson-Poynder, later Lord Islington, who bought the house in 1899. The house remained in the family until 1959, but the name was not thought to be strong enough for the palatial property.

This is an example of the meticulous approach to the project of restoring the house by Peter Lukasz for Wingate Property Investments.

original design for the hall was copied by computer and sent to Italy to be cut. The first two floors of the house are Grade II listed, and the five reception rooms include a vast ballroom of double height decorated in French rococo style.

The house in all covers 22,000 sq ft, but above the first two floors the decorations have not been completed, on the assumption that the purchaser will want to plan them. There are two master bedroom suites and eight further bedroom suites, with supporting kitchen

Institution or embassy is likely to buy

accommodation, four staff bedrooms and a recreation room. The house has full air conditioning, a passenger lift, paved video and stereo systems and a piped rear garden.

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PROPERTY BUYERS' GUIDE

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LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

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SEC/ADMIN £9,000 The Leading Hotels of the World, a marketing consortium of some 210 deluxe hotels, require an experienced secretary/administrative assistant for their London office.

OSBORNE RICHARDSON TRI-LINGUAL PA to £15,000 Use your fluent Spanish, good French and German and City experience to take the next step with this Trust Management Co.

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LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

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Mediterranean Coast Tax protected salaries

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If your qualifications and experience meet our requirements please write for an application form or send full C.V. (with recent photograph) quoting job reference: GSI, to Recruitment Co-ordinator, Umm Al-Jawaby Oil Service Co. Ltd, 33 Cavendish Square, London W1M 0HF.



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Please write, enclosing a CV, to: Peter Davies, Group Personnel & Training Director, Sutcliffe Catering Group Ltd., Mulliner House, Flanders Road, Tottenham Green, London W4 1NR.

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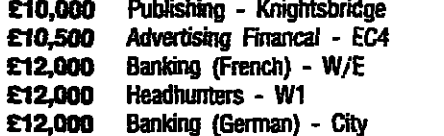
Well-presented, you will deal comfortably with all levels of staff and management.

High W/P skills are essential, preferably Wang. You will probably have foreign language capability (French preferred) and some shorthand, as well as previous legal experience.

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A LEADING UK ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE require AN EXPERIENCED AUDIO SECRETARY

For their Mayfair Offices. You must possess excellent typing skills and a professional attitude. Experience of working as part of an architectural team would be an advantage.

We are offering a salary of £9,000 p.a. and excellent working conditions.

Please reply in writing with your C.V. to:
Mrs E Thomas, Holder & Mathias Partnership,
53 Mount Street, London W1Y 5RE.

SECRETARY TO THE TECHNICAL DIRECTOR "INFORMATION FOR ARCHITECTS" c.£9,400

RIBA Services is a small cheerful company of the Royal Institute of British Architects near Oxford Circus. The Technical Director needs a secretary with excellent typing and administrative skills, audio, no shorthand. Interest in computers/WP essential. Work varied. 'A' levels an advantage. 21 days holiday and LV's.

Ring Chris Bottom
01 580 5533 ext 4518
(No Agencies)

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL

A vacancy will arise in January for the position of Head Masters secretary. School experience desirable, with initiative, resilience and commitment. Salary to be discussed.

Applications with CV and the names and telephone numbers of two referees by Monday 1st December to:

The Head Master,
Westminster School,
17 Deans Yard,
London SW1P 3PB
(01-222 6904)

INTERESTED IN PERSONNEL £9,500

Top firm of interior designers in W1 require versatile SH sec (£22 plus) with Wang to work for their chief executive. Very high admin content and ideal opportunity to learn how a thriving Co operates.

Call Sally Owens on 01-734 8911 in ready for this exciting head-office position.

K NIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES

medial MEDIA & ADVERTISING

FINANCIAL PR - £12,000

Exciting opportunity to assist Director of established PR consultancy in setting up new financial PR department. He is looking for a good PA who he can delegate to. Must have at least 4 years City experience and an interest in high technology. Age: 25+. Skills: 100/60

PERSONNEL - £12,000

Successful publishing company with a positive, go-ahead management need an experienced Personnel/Admin Officer to develop new systems within a varied role which includes recruitment, maintaining personnel records and Industrial Relations. Age: Late 20's.

DESIGN & PUBLICITY - £9,000

Production Department of educational book publishers involved in the design and promotion of new books and software packages need a bright young secretary. Plenty of scope for involvement and learning. Age 21+. Skills: rusty/60.

RECEPTION - £8,750

Ad agency in Knightsbridge need an experienced receptionist with immaculate presentation. No skills required. Age: 24+.

491 8775
Recruitment Consultants

REALISE YOUR POTENTIAL C. £12,000 + BONUS

This is a rare opportunity to consolidate your excellent organisational skills and knowledge of the City. Our client, a highly motivated American stockbroker, seeks a well educated PA to set up and run a new division within an established company in E.C.2. Languages and shorthand are advantageous and fast typing essential. Age 22-30.

01-691 0475
SEER
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

ARE YOU A BRICK?

Variety, fun and team work make this a super job as Partnership Secretary in a go-ahead firm of Architects in Victoria. You are totally responsible for the payroll (13 staff), control of bank accounts, invoices, VAT returns, personnel records, office maintenance and some secretarial support to a creative team. Your enthusiasm, efficiency and sense of humour will make this the job for you. Skills 80/60 + WP. Age 25-35. Salary to £11,000. Please ring 434 4512.

Crone Corkill
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

ADVERTISING

Cool, clever unflappable secretary for foremen in the field. A confident contributor will have the skills necessary to smoothly cope with top-level clients, a Wang and a very stimulating workload.

The right person will probably have some advertising experience and will be looking for more involvement. They will be rewarded with a good salary and perks so generous as to include a clothing allowance and a bonus. The previous secretary really proved herself and is now an account executive....

Susan Beck RECRUITMENT 01-584 6242

DRAKE PERSONNEL INTERNATIONAL PRESTIGE £9,000

Join the elite in the upmarket and internationally renowned company you will be based in the heart of Mayfair at fabulous offices accepting three excellent Sales Executives dealing with clients and keeping track of their hectic schedules. If you're stylish, efficient and outgoing, with excellent shorthand and typing skills.

Call Sue Davis now on 01-734 8911 in ready for this exciting head-office position.

The Drake Personnel Group

FRENCH SPEAKING SECRETARY

Charming young Frenchwoman needs a young bi-lingual secretary.

This is a hectic job involving English shorthand and good typing (K train on W/P). Confident personality needed when organising social events, lunches etc.

Age 21. £8,500.

Bernadette of Bond St.
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
No 33, New door in Pall Mall, London W1
01-428 1284

£9,500 AT 21+ DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES PA INTERNATIONAL, W1/DNS 03

An excellent opportunity for a well-spoken and educated secretary to enjoy top level professional at Director level. Lots of client contact, meeting City sports, organising dinners etc. Fabulous office, sports club, free top class restaurant, 10% discount on holidays plus more.

Please phone Sarah 01-499 2288.

Mistiprigitte
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
04 Regent Street, London W1
Tel 01-499 2208

RECEPTIONIST TELEPHONIST

Required for Chancery Lane Solicitors. Must be well spoken, presentable and able to deal with clients in a friendly but efficient manner. A competitive salary will be offered.

Contact:
MRS. T. WIDLAKE
MESSRS. KENWRIGHT & COX
38 CHANCERY LANE
LONDON WC2A 1EL
TEL: 01-242 0672

EFFICIENT & PERSONABLE SECRETARY

Required to organise busy private anaesthetic group practices in Central London. Free Parking. Hours and salary negotiable.

Please contact Dr Neil Cole
Anaesthetic Group Practice,
The Churchill Club,
80 Lambeth Road, SE1.
Telephone 633 9510.

DRAKE PERSONNEL CAREER MINDER? £9,000 plus Study Package

If you have a good standard of education, with a 1st/2nd Division and two years' secretarial experience, you could be just what we need for our new London office. The world famous company is looking for a young, energetic, efficient and reliable person to be responsible for administrative tasks in a busy, fast-paced environment. You will be responsible for a wide range of secretarial duties, including typing, shorthand, and word processing. You will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office, including answering the phone, taking messages, and organising travel arrangements. You will be working closely with the Managing Director, who is a very busy and demanding person. You will need to be able to handle a high level of stress and to work independently. You will be offered a competitive salary and a study package to help you with your education. If you are interested, please contact us now.

Call Maria Thomas (01) 252 5500

£12,000+ MORTGAGE

The Head of Trading for prestigious International City Bank requires a remarkable Sec/PA with initiative and dynamism. Mature approach with financial/banking experience and the ability to advise, organise and participate thoroughly at this senior level. Age 25-35. Skills 100/70. Profit share, bonus, etc etc.

01 430 1551/2853

Managing Director,
Mortgage Executive Selection,
202, Euston Road, London W1,
01-582 5241.

ASSISTANT EXAMINATIONS OFFICER (Administrative Post)

For Post Office needs secretarial Sec/PA. This post is on a 10 month contract. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the examinations office. You will be responsible for the day to day running of the examinations office, including answering the phone, taking messages, and organising travel arrangements. You will be working closely with the Managing Director, who is a very busy and demanding person. You will need to be able to handle a high level of stress and to work independently. You will be offered a competitive salary and a study package to help you with your education. If you are interested, please contact us now.

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01 430 1551/2853

STRUCTURE 2000

PERSONNEL
FRANCE/GERMANY £24,000
TOP PA £13,000 net
MAGAZINES/PA £21,500
WRITE OFF RESEARCH ASSISTANT £10,000
ADVERTISING Handle accounts/contracts £20,000
TV Use state/write £20,000
PUBLISHING £20,000
SECRETARIAL/PA £20,000
RECEPTION/FILES £20,000

01 409 0744

01-437-60150

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

MEDIA-FINANCE-ADVERTISING-SALES-PERSONNEL-MEDIA-FINANCE

MEDIA-FINANCE-ADVERTISING-SALES-PERSONNEL-MEDIA-FINANCE

Work in Television £10,500

The environment is electric, the surroundings beautiful and the people friendly, talented and busy. It's a good place to be.

The manager of the sales team needs a P.A. who welcomes real involvement and plenty of client contact. If this sounds good to you please ring us to arrange an interview.

Skills: 100/60 Age: 23-28

HAZELL STATION

RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS
8 Golden Square, London W1
Tel: 01-439 6021

THE WORK SHOP

High Flyer

£12,000
Superb career step for a top-notch, capable perfectionist. He is a leading business figure, fast-moving and totally dedicated to achievement at the highest level. You will handle complex diary/travel arrangements, highly confidential projects and a constant schedule of public/private matters. Some travel and weekend working included. Hours variable on rota. Total commitment and excellent skills (100/60) essential. Age 23-28. Please call 01-409 1231.

Recruitment Consultants

City £11,000+

An international investment company in EC3 needs a secretary/receptionist with good skills (90/60) to greet clients and provide secretarial support to a small team of brokers. Excellent presentation vital. Age mid-late 20s with a minimum of 2 years relevant office experience.

GRADUATE APPOINTMENTS
7 PRINCES STREET, W1. 01-629 7262

Magazines £9,000

The promotions director of a consumer magazine publishing house needs a P.A. who enjoys setting up systems and working under pressure in an interesting fast moving environment. Excellent typing; shorthand useful. Age 25+.

GRADUATE APPOINTMENTS
7 PRINCES STREET, W1. 01-629 7262

NO SHORTHAND £10,500

Based in the heart of the West End, join this international company as secretary/PA to one of their executives. Your organisational skills will be utilised to the full. Enjoy a high tech office and excellent benefits including profit share and twice yearly reviews. 60 wpm audio and WP experience needed.

WORLD OF DESIGN £10,000+++

His famous interior and product design company needs a truly organised secretary to run the busy life of their founder. Experience of a creative environment is needed to enable you to get involved immediately as is the ability to liaise with the media using tact and diplomacy. 80/60 skills and WP needed. Please telephone 01 240 3511.

Elizabeth Hunt
Recruitment Consultants
18 Grosvenor Street London W1

New Opportunity in Recruitment

Due to an exciting expansion programme in the West End, we are looking for career orientated people who will respond positively to management opportunities.

If you can work well in a hectic environment, and can contribute as part of a professional recruitment team, telephone us now for an interview in confidence.

J. Moss Baker Street 486 6144
P. Hart Kings Road 730 9211

A. Accini Victoria 834 5745
R. Hutchins Challoners, Victoria 828 3845

BROOK STREET

PA/OFFICE MANAGER £11,000 + Mort Subs

Use your senior level experience to help run the high tech division of this famous name bank. Supervise the work of the department's secretaries, liaise with senior management and co-ordinate the head of department's busy diary. 100/55 skills and WP experience needed. Age 25-30.

MARKETING THE CITY £11,000

The international division of this high profile investment company needs a self-starter to provide secretarial support to their senior executive. Co-ordinate extensive enquiries, develop client relations and enjoy a fast moving and often pressurised atmosphere. 100/60 skills and WP needed. Age 25+. Please telephone 01 240 3511.

Elizabeth Hunt
Recruitment Consultants
23 College Hill London EC4

TELEVISION £10,000

Excellent opportunity for recruitment of senior level for a fast moving TV company. As a Chief Executive of this highly successful TV company, ideally you will be a former good organiser, possess sound secretarial skills & aged 25+.

SECRETARY/PA

Practice of Property Agents specialising in shopping centre developments throughout the UK require Secretary/PA to 2 young - surveys and other attractive modern Mayfair office. WP exp. ess. Salary neg. a.a.e. Telephone Wendy 01 493 9675

WORD PROCESSING SUPERVISOR £13,000

With Digital Decimate expertise using "All in one" and WP plus software. You will be responsible for a small team of operators providing a typing support service for this international Bankers, scheduling work loads and liaising with various users. Excellent banking benefits. Appointments immediately.

Please contact Jane Seilly
OFFICE SYSTEMS RECRUITMENT SERVICES

THE RITZ

TEMPORARY SECRETARIES

Secure your place on my winter team. If you have efficient SHORTHAND, DR AUDIO skills and are aged 20-35, I will look after you! Especially in demand are secretaries with: - WANG/WANG office assistant - Decimate II

For TOP RATES and further details, please phone JULIE NORTHEAST on 029-4343. Fax Cons.

CHANNEL YOUR INTERESTS!

Two positions are available in this small but expanding company providing office services to television and film production companies. If you enjoy a busy environment and meeting interesting people, one of the following could be for you:

SECRETARY: To handle and extend client business. Word processing experience essential, shorthand an advantage. A challenging and interesting position. Salary c.£9,000.

RECEPTIONIST: To operate newly installed Menarche mechanical, deal with clients and assist with typing. Salary c.£8,000.

Incredible opportunity for people with imagination and ability to grow with a small company.

For further information please call Judith Randall, The Production Centre, 74 Newman Street, London, W1. Telephone: 580 7781.

CAREER DESIGN LIMITED

ART GALLERY £10,000

Marvelous opportunity for a bright secretary to train within the publishing arm of this major art gallery. A young energetic environment for an experienced PA. (90/50 skills) aged 24-40.

EUROPEAN/LANGUAGE PA £9,500

Co-ordinate new business projects organise media mailshots, liaise with TV companies whilst providing reliable administrative and secretarial back-up. Knowledge of French, German or Italian.

For further details contact Diane Hilton or Karin Parnaby on 01-489 0889/01-236 2522

SENIOR LEGAL SECRETARY £10,800

Experienced with conveyancing providing secretarial support to a Senior Partner using the Wang OIS WP. Liaising with clients, dealing with appointments as well as the day to day running of this busy office. STL, four weeks holiday, two salary reviews per year.

Please contact Michele Tyne
OFFICE SYSTEMS RECRUITMENT SERVICES

CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY

With audio/shorthand required for Company Secretary of small firm of surveyors in W1. The job also involves working for two other surveyors. Excellent salary for the right applicant. Ring 01 499 5511. (No Agencies)

SECRETARY/PERSON FRIDAY

Well established Printing Company in SW3 requires organised secretary/person Friday with enthusiasm, willing to work on her own and use her initiative and charm when dealing direct with customers. No shorthand required but accurate typing and good telephone manner essential. Some experience preferred. Salary c.£8,000

Contact Rose Freeman 01-352 1879

MAYFAIR PROPERTY COMPANY

requires bright well presented secretary for 2 partners. Good secretarial skills essential including fast auditing and previous WP experience, preferably Olivetti, but will train. Age 25+. Salary c.£8,000. Telephone 629 8989

SALES/SECRETARIAL

Enthusiastic, flexible sales person capable of good typing required by District Sales Office. Applicants should be prepared to spend time between a super showroom at South Kensington and various offices. Salary negotiable. Ring Joyn 01 221 5525

HARLEY STREET SURGEON

requires experienced SECRETARY/PA with a sense of humour, very busy interesting practice. Salary negotiable. Ring 01-935 0213

2 SECRETAIRES BILINGUES LONDRES

Maison de vin jeune et dynamique recherche deux secrétaires bilingues (anglais/français) pour leur service commercial. Une préférence sera accordée aux candidatures intéressées par le vin et capables d'utiliser les machines de traitement de texte, telex, etc. Salaires compétitifs et autres avantages. Candidature et c.v. à adresser à Mme Claire McLean, Berkman Wine Cellars, 12 Brewery Road, London N7 9NH

ASSISTANT FOR INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT COMPANY

We are a small, expanding investment management company based in EC2 and require an intelligent, young assistant with excellent educational background. We want you to be energetic, competent typist and able to help with general office administration. Good salary, prospects and working conditions. Send C.V in writing to: Miss S. Kennedy, BOX 102, C/- The Times, P O Box 484, London E1.

SUPER SECRETARIES

KING'S COLLEGE LONDON (KQC)

University of London
KING'S COLLEGE LONDON (KQC) is one of the larger multi-faculty schools in the University of London.
There is a vacancy for a SECRETARIAL ASSISTANT in the Office of the Principal of the College at the Strand Campus, London, WC2.
Good shorthand and typing skills are required. The work is varied and interesting for someone who enjoys meeting people, and is able to deal responsibly with confidential matters.
Salary within the scale £5,370 - £7,861 per annum inclusive. 4 weeks annual leave plus Bank Holidays and additional days at Christmas and Easter.
Applications including a full curriculum vitae should be sent to:
Assistant Personnel Officer, King's College London (KQC), Norfolk Building, Strand, London, WC2R 2LS.
Closing date for applications: 28th November 1986.

CHESTERTONS - RESIDENTIAL

SECRETARY WANTED
Age 16-23 to work in a friendly but busy office. An extrovert with outgoing personality and accurate typing. WP knowledge helpful but training given. Salary negotiable.
Contact Mac Delves, 40 Connaught St. London W2. Tel 01-262 5060

HEXAGON

Requires an experienced Receptionist/Telephone for our busy Highgate SW19. Strongly motivated, self-motivated and capable of taking on extra duties. Salary negotiable.
NATIONAL CHARITY: We are looking for an Assistant Office Secretary to work with the Research Fund for the Deaf. This is a full-time position with a salary of £10,000 per annum. The post holder will be responsible for the day to day running of the office, and will be expected to undertake a variety of administrative tasks. The post holder will also be responsible for the recruitment and selection of staff. The post holder will be expected to undertake a variety of administrative tasks. The post holder will also be responsible for the recruitment and selection of staff.

'STEPPING OUT'

Our clients are stepping out before Xmas and we need people to take over their secretarial duties. We have a number of positions available in the City and in the Home Counties. We are looking for people who are confident, efficient and have a good knowledge of office procedures. We are offering a salary of £10,000 per annum plus benefits. We are offering a salary of £10,000 per annum plus benefits.

DESIGN CONSULTANCY IN HIGHGATE VILLAGE

requires a PERSONAL ASSISTANT/ADMINISTRATOR
The Principal of a leading design consultancy based in Highgate Village seeks a Personal Assistant to handle many aspects of the business. The person we seek will have good typing, word processing skills, some bookkeeping knowledge, the ability to liaise with clients and communicate with people at all levels, an excellent telephone manner and above all a calm, confident personality.
Good working conditions and a salary c.£10,000 p.a. are offered.
If you are interested in this challenging position please send your cv to David Morgan, David Morgan Associates, 10 Broadmead Close, 20 - 22 Highgate High Street, London N5 5P.

SOCIAL SECRETARY

Example, versatile and highly organized individual required to manage social events and entertain guests. The post holder will be responsible for the day to day running of the office, and will be expected to undertake a variety of administrative tasks. The post holder will also be responsible for the recruitment and selection of staff.

PROPERTY

£10,000 - £12,000 per annum plus benefits. We are looking for a Property Secretary to work in a busy office. The post holder will be responsible for the day to day running of the office, and will be expected to undertake a variety of administrative tasks. The post holder will also be responsible for the recruitment and selection of staff.

PA/SEC 222

This busy Director who travels a lot, requires a PA/SEC to handle his diary and correspondence. The post holder will be responsible for the day to day running of the office, and will be expected to undertake a variety of administrative tasks. The post holder will also be responsible for the recruitment and selection of staff.

PA SHORTHAND SECRETARY FOR OUR SENIOR DIRECTORS

AGE 23+ EC3
A very senior position has become available in our Loyds reinsuring company. The ideal applicant will have excellent secretarial skills, a pleasant and confident personality, with good telephone manner and be able to work on their own initiative. Any European languages would be a great advantage. Hours of work 8.45am - 5.45pm. Minimum salary £10,000 + fringe benefits.
For more details please contact: Lynn Mearby on 01 488 1488 (No agencies please)

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS £17,000

Due to expansion this established W1 Professional Secretarial Agency offers opportunities to specialist management interviewers and temp controllers. Successful candidates, with initiative and motivation, can expect an excellent high basic salary plus commission.
For further information please telephone between 1900-2200 hrs any weekday morning.
01-723 5830

SPANISH/ENGLISH OFFICE ASSISTANT

£11,000. As the task between the two languages, you will be responsible for the day to day running of the office, and will be expected to undertake a variety of administrative tasks. The post holder will also be responsible for the recruitment and selection of staff.

MANAGER SECRETARIES

£10,000 - £12,000 per annum plus benefits. We are looking for a Manager Secretary to work in a busy office. The post holder will be responsible for the day to day running of the office, and will be expected to undertake a variety of administrative tasks. The post holder will also be responsible for the recruitment and selection of staff.

PERSONNEL

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LEGAL PA/SEC

U.S. law firm's London (Mayfair) branch office, seeks to add experienced and enthusiastic legal PA/SEC. Must be available for occasional overtime; excellent typing skills and WP experience essential; shorthand desirable; client contact requires pleasant presentation.
Write with CV to: Wald, Harkrader & Ross, 21 Upper Brook Street, London W1Y 1PD. Salary a.a.e.

WEST END

As Personal Assistant to the Chairman of an international law firm, specialising in the entertainment world, you will be responsible for his personal and business affairs. As there is extensive client liaison, it is important that you are well spoken and well presented. Legal experience in your background and numeracy are important attributes. Salary £11,000 plus WP. Age 28-45 (inc. cons).
01-499 0092
Senior Secretaries

MANAGER SECRETARIES

£10,000 - £12,000 per annum plus benefits. We are looking for a Manager Secretary to work in a busy office. The post holder will be responsible for the day to day running of the office, and will be expected to undertake a variety of administrative tasks. The post holder will also be responsible for the recruitment and selection of staff.

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01-499 0092
Senior Secretaries

EXECUTIVE CRÈME

SOUL OF DISCRETION

© £17K

The Managing Director of our client, a major British Merchant Bank, is looking for an executive secretary.

He is totally involved in the mainstream banking activities of the organisation and travels abroad frequently, on which occasions his secretary performs a PR function on his behalf. Her job will also consist of arranging these trips, administering his office and some secretarial work, for which shorthand and typing are needed.

The successful applicant will have a warm, approachable personality, a sense of discretion and a smart appearance, in order to act as an interface between the MD, clients and other members of the bank.

Age indicator 26-35. Salary includes excellent banking benefits.

Please telephone 01-439 6477

Mac Blain Nash

Law Report November 19 1986

Second prosecution on single school attendance order unlawful

Enfield London Borough Council v Forsyth
Before Lord Justice Ralph Gibson, Mr Justice McNeill and Mr Justice Kennedy
[Reasons November 18]

Where parents had been served with a school attendance order and prosecuted for failing to comply with it contrary to sections 37(5) and 40(1) of the Education Act 1944, that order was spent, and any subsequent failure by the parents to fulfil their duty under section 36 would require service of a new attendance order.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held, giving reasons for dismissing, on October 30, an appeal by way of case stated by the prosecutor, the London Borough of Enfield, from a decision of Wood Green Crown Court (Judge McMillan with justices which allowed an appeal by Mr and Mrs Thomas Forsyth from their conviction by the Edmonton Justices of an offence under section 37(5) of the 1944 Act.

Mr Geoffrey Stephenson for the appellants, who were in person; Mr David Calvert-Smith as *amicus curiae*.

LORD JUSTICE RALPH GIBSON said that Mr and Mrs Forsyth were the parent of a child aged about 12 and therefore of compulsory school age under section 35 of the 1944 Act. By section 36 it was the duty of the parents "to cause the child to receive efficient full-time education... either by regular attendance at school or otherwise".

On January 12, 1984, the London Borough of Enfield, as local education authority, laid information against the parents, alleging that having had served upon them a school attendance order dated January 12, 1984, requiring them to cause the child to receive education at a registered pupil at Chase School, they had since January 13, 1984 failed to comply with the requirements in that order, contrary to section 37(5) and 40(1) of the 1944 Act.

On March 15, 1984, the parents were convicted of the offence and the justices imposed a fine of £5 on each of them and ordered each to pay costs of £20. On that occasion they pleaded guilty. The child had not been registered as a pupil at the school and it was not contended by them that the child was receiving efficient education otherwise than at school. The parents did not comply with the

requirements of a school attendance order they could be no second prosecution in respect of a continuing failure with reference to the same school attendance order.

The court's reasons were as follows:

The requirement imposed by a school attendance order was to produce a result. When the result had been produced the requirement had been complied with and the order was spent.

The duty to comply with the requirements of the order was a continuing duty but when performed, no duty under that order remained to be performed.

As to the offence of failing to comply with the requirements of such an order, applying the words of Mr Justice Mann in *Bradford City v Preston* (unreported, July 11, 1985, DC) and in conformity with Lord Roskill's reasoning in *Hodgett v Chiltern District Council* (The Times March 19, 1983) it was a continuing offence in the sense that failure was a continuing condition, the form of the information on the first prosecution of Mr and Mrs Forsyth was correct in alleging a failure to comply on and since January 13, 1984, but section 37(5) created only one offence of failure in regard to any particular notice.

The court reached that conclusion upon the construction of section 37(5) in its context and it could not find in that section or in any other provision of the Act any ground for implying a power in the education authority, or jurisdiction in the court, to prosecute to convict for a second offence with reference to one school attendance order.

It was necessary to consider the sequence which led to the making of an order under section 37. It started with the education authority forming the view that a parent was failing to perform the section 36 duty of causing the child to receive efficient full-time education.

The education authority had to serve upon the parent a notice requiring him to satisfy the authority within a period of time. The parent had either to identify the school the child was attending or show how otherwise the child was being educated.

If upon receipt of the parent's reply, the education authority was not satisfied that the child was receiving such education the authority was under a duty to serve a school attendance

order if it was thought expedient that the child attend school.

The order to be served upon the parent was not left to the discretion of the education authority. It could only be an order requiring the parent to cause the child to become a registered pupil at a named school (section 37(2)).

The actions by the parent necessary to cause a child to become a registered pupil consisted of giving notice to the school proprietor of the child's attendance at the school under section 80 of the 1944 Act - in this case the local education authority.

After being so registered a child might cease to be a registered pupil for various reasons including non-attendance. Despite service of a school attendance order requiring a parent to cause a child to become a registered pupil at the named school, the parent could not be prosecuted under section 37(5) by reason of failure of the child to attend regularly at the school unless and until the child was a "registered pupil" there.

The sanction for not sending the child to school, so that the parent was liable to be prosecuted for the offence under section 37(5) if the child failed to attend regularly at the school unless and until the child was a "registered pupil" there.

The sanction for not sending the child to school, so that the parent was liable to be prosecuted for the offence under section 37(5) if the child failed to attend regularly at the school unless and until the child was a "registered pupil" there.

Section 37(5) demonstrated the importance attached by Parliament to the principle that the parent was to be free to provide his child with education otherwise than at school provided he could satisfy the education authority or the justice of the peace that the education so provided was up to the standard required by the Act.

If, when a school attendance order had been served, the parent complied and the child became a registered pupil, then the order was spent and there could be no prosecution for "failing to comply with the requirements" of it, if at a later date, and in however short a time, the child should cease to be a registered pupil at the named school.

There could then be no prosecution under section 39 because the child would no longer be a registered pupil. There could be no starting point for section 37(5) in accordance with the procedure laid down, a new school attendance order had been served, because the parent had not failed to comply with the requirements.

Solicitors: Mr W. D. Day, Enfield; Treasury Solicitor.

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Reasonable use of highway for protest

Hirst and Another v Chief Constable of West Yorkshire
Before Lord Justice Glidewell and Mr Justice Goff
[Judgment November 7]

Where a court was satisfied that a person had without lawful authority willfully or deliberately caused an obstruction in his use of the highway, the court was not entitled to convict him of an offence under section 137 of the Highways Act 1980, without further being satisfied that his use of the highway was unreasonable.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court accordingly allowed an appeal by case stated by Hirst and Another against the decision of Leeds Crown Court on November 5, 1985 (Mr Recorder J. S. H. Stewart, QC and two justices), whereby they dismissed the defendants' appeal against their convictions by Bradford Justices on July 2, 1985 for obstructing the highway in the course of a demonstration on behalf of animal rights.

Section 137 of the Highways Act 1980 provides that if a person, without lawful authority or excuse, in any way willfully obstructs the free passage along a highway he is guilty of an offence.

Mr James Wood for the appellants; Mr Rodney Grant for the prosecutor.

LORD JUSTICE GLIDEWELL said that the appellants were members of a group of animal rights supporters who went to Bradford city centre on January 19, 1985 to exhibit banners bearing slogans and to offer leaflets to passers-by.

The group in question was a peaceful and law-abiding group of animal rights supporters who went to Bradford city centre on January 19, 1985 to exhibit banners bearing slogans and to offer leaflets to passers-by.

The group in question was a peaceful and law-abiding group of animal rights supporters who went to Bradford city centre on January 19, 1985 to exhibit banners bearing slogans and to offer leaflets to passers-by.

They stood in a narrow pedestrian precinct outside a shop which sold furs, either offering leaflets or holding a banner, or standing in support and in concert with those doing so.

Agri was arrested for conduct likely to cause a breach of the peace (a charge which was not proceeded with and later charged with obstruction). Hirst

and three others then stood in the entrance to the shop where they had gathered to protest at the arrest. They were no longer distributing leaflets.

They refused to move when asked to do so and were then arrested for obstructing the highway.

It was submitted for the appellants in the crown court, as now, that their use of the highway was reasonable and that to secure a conviction the prosecution had to prove that the use was unreasonable.

It was submitted for the prosecutor, relying on *Waite v Taylor* (1985) 149 JP 551, that unless the appellants' presence on the highway was for the purpose of passing or re-passing along it, or for some purpose incidental thereto, their presence constituted an unlawful obstruction.

The crown court considered itself bound by *Waite v Taylor* and found that to stand on the highway offering leaflets or holding banners was a not a lawful use of it.

Nagy v Weston (1965) 1 WLR 280, was the leading modern authority and binding on the court. It did not apply as rigid a test as that in *Waite v Taylor*.

Lord Parker, Lord Chief Justice, in *Nagy v Weston* (at p284) set out the proper test for questions arising under an identical section: "excuse and reasonableness are really the same ground... there must be proof that the use in question was an unreasonable use. Whether the use amounts to an obstruction is or is not an unreasonable use of the highway is a question of fact."

It depends upon all the circumstances, including the length of time the obstruction continues, the place where it occurs, the purpose for which it is done, and... whether it does in fact cause an actual obstruction.

That *dictum* was subsequently approved, albeit *obiter*, by Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls (dissenting) in *Hubbard v Pitt*

(1976) QB 142, 174; and by the Court of Appeal in *Hipperson v Newbury District Electoral Registrar Officer* (1985) 1 QB 1060, 1075E.

That was also the way in which Mr Justice Tudor Evans dealt with the matter in *Cooper v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis* (1985) 82 Cr App R 238, 242 where he said: "a member of the public has a right to pass and re-pass along a highway and to do everything which is reasonable thereto."

"However, if as a matter of fact and degree a member of the public's use of the highway is so unreasonable as to amount to an obstruction, then an offence under the Highways Act 1980 may be committed if it is a question of fact and degree in every case..."

His Lordship agreed with Mr Justice Tudor Evans in that case. If that were not right a variety of actions which often went on in the street, such as the distribution of free periodicals and advertising material at stations, might be the subject of prosecution under section 137.

Some activities such as street trading were lawfully authorized because permitted by statutory licence, but many others were not.

The question in such a case was whether the prosecution had proved that the defendant was obstructing the highway without lawful excuse, that question to be decided according to whether the use was reasonable or unreasonable.

The user had to be inherently lawful to constitute a lawful excuse for what would otherwise be an obstruction. Unlawful picketing in pursuance of a trade dispute would not be reasonable.

The correct approach in dealing with such issues was first to consider whether there was an actual obstruction. Unless it was *de minimis* any stopping on the highway would prima facie be an obstruction.

The second question was whether the obstruction was wilful or deliberate.

Finally, had the prosecution proved that the obstruction was without lawful authority or excuse?

Lawful authority included permits and licences for market and street traders and collectors for charity. Lawful authority included activities lawful in themselves which were reasonable.

The court did not consider the question of reasonableness of user in the present case and the conviction would accordingly be quashed.

MR JUSTICE OTTON, agreeing, said that the courts had long recognized the right of free speech and the right to peaceful protest on matters of public concern, subject to a need for peace and good order.

In *Hubbard v Pitt* (1976) QB 142, 178-179 Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls said: "Here we have to consider the right to demonstrate and the right to protest on matters of public concern. These are rights which it is in the public interest that individuals should possess and indeed, that they should exercise without impediment so long as no wrongful act is done..."

"As long as all is done peaceably and in good order, without threats or incitement to violence or obstruction to traffic, it is not prohibited... I stress the need for peace and good order. Only too often violence may break out and then it should be firmly handled and severely punished. But so long as good order is maintained, the right to demonstrate must be preserved..."

Although Lord Denning was dealing there with the grant of interlocutory injunctions, the passage was of importance when considering whether persons such as the appellants had committed the criminal offence of wilful obstruction where there was a statutory right of arrest without warrant.

Solicitors: Rhys Vaughan, Manchester; Crown Prosecution Service, Wakefield.

Solicitor's duty of care to third party

Al Kandari v J. R. Brown & Co
Before Mr Justice French
[Judgment November 10]

A solicitor who had authority from his client to give an undertaking for, *inter alia*, the protection of a third party owed a duty of care towards that third party which was within his direct contemplation as someone likely to be so closely and directly affected by his acts or omissions that the third party was likely to be injured by those acts or omissions.

Accordingly, the plaintiff was owed a duty of care by the defendants, her husband's solicitors, who were taken to know that his passport should not leave their possession since the whole purpose of the undertaking was to protect the plaintiff and her two children against any further attempt to remove the children from the jurisdiction.

Mr Justice French so held in a reserved judgment in the Queen's Bench Division when he dismissed the claim for damages in respect of the costs incurred in attempts to recover the children in Kuwait and also for the shock, distress and physical injury she suffered by reason of the assault she sustained on June 7, 1981, loss of the kidnapping and loss of her children on the same date.

Mr T. Scott Baker, QC and Mr Alexander Dawson for the plaintiff; Mr Robert Seabrook, QC and Mr Stephen Miller for the defendant.

MR JUSTICE FRENCH said that the plaintiff's former husband absconded from Bristol to Kuwait with their two tiny children in particularly disgraceful circumstances, as the plaintiff had never seen the children since.

She claimed he was successful in removing them by reason of the negligence and/or breach of contract on the part of his then solicitors, the defendants. They had acted or failed to act in relation to his passport, which included the names of the children and which was deposited with them, in such a way that he was in a position to escape from the jurisdiction with the children.

On the question whether the defendants owed the plaintiff a duty of care, the defendants urged that only when a solicitor had undertaken some personal obligation clearly defined as to its nature and extent could such a duty arise. It was undesirable and contrary to public policy as creating a conflict of interest in the solicitor, whose paramount duty was to his client, to find a duty to exist save in circumstances analogous to those in *Ross v Caunters* (1980) Ch 297.

They also contended that their sole duty in the present case was not knowingly to take any step which would deprive their undertaking of its force, including a duty to take reasonable care that the passport should not leave their possession. It was not conceded, however, that any breach of that admitted duty sounded in tort: it was a duty owed only to the court.

In his Lordship's view they did owe a duty in tort to the plaintiff to take reasonable care that the passport should not leave their possession, and they owed the further duty to take all reasonable steps to prevent harm coming to the plaintiff from any failure to comply with the undertaking.

Solicitors' undertakings very often involved a conflict; they commonly undertook to retain money which otherwise they

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BOXING

Heavyweight series gets a long overdue kiss of life

From Srikumar Sen Boxing Correspondent Las Vegas

The heavyweight series to unify the world championship...

Then if Tyson wins again, and it is a big if as both Witherspoon and Tubbs...

Three champions have changed in the series. Beribek took his title from Pinklon Thomas...

If he succeeds against Beribek, his next bout will be against the winner of Tubbs and Witherspoon...

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Washington outlast 'awesome' Montana

By Robert Kirtley

Somebody once said that statistics were for losers; Joe Montana, a winner by anyone's standards...

The numbers? Montana completed 33 of 60 passes for 441 yards, including 12 completions...

HORSE TRIALS

Series rewards improved

By Jenny MacArthur

The richest prize in one-day eventing was announced yesterday when the sponsors MacConnell-Mason Mercedes disclosed their plans for a £5,000 accumulator to be awarded at the end of the 1987 series.

Lucinda Green, the former world champion and a previous winner of the accumulator prize said yesterday she welcomed the increased prize money...

Michael Stevenson on Lancashire's new captain

'Yosser' Hughes lands a job he never asked for

Life can hold problems for those who are basically remembered for one thing. Prince Obolensky scored a great try and no one recalls his hundreds of others...

Victim of the one-day game

of Procter and Davey. The lights in the Warwick Road stadium shone bright and Hughes, manifestly inspired, took 24 runs off the 36th over...

Last season Hughes played virtually no first-class cricket and many people were wondering whether his career would ever be played for Lancashire's second team...



Hughes: seeking revival speaks volumes for the esteem in which they are held. As a slow left-arm, Hughes was (unlike Jack Simmons) to some extent a victim of the one-day game...

GOLF



Winner: Tony Jacklin congratulates Diane Bailey, the woman golfer of the year (Photograph: John Rogers)

Bailey is poised for top honour

By Mitchell Platts

Diane Bailey, who led Great Britain and Ireland to an unprecedented victory in the Curtis Cup on American soil last August, is on the threshold of making history again.

Mrs Bailey could be given the ultimate reward for her sterling effort in Prairie Dunes, Kansas, by being offered an historic third term as captain of the British Isles women's amateur team for the defence of the Cup in 1988.

She said: "It would certainly be an honour and I would obviously be tempted to accept. But the 1988 match is a long way off and the selectors have yet to meet to discuss the matter."

Mrs Bailey was in London at the Basil Street Hotel to represent the team and to receive on its behalf the Avia Watches Woman Golfer of the Year award.

Tony Jacklin, who captained Europe to their Ryder Cup success against the United States last year, made the presentation and said: "It is a tremendous privilege for me to be here. It was a most marvellous victory and I, as much as anyone, appreciate how difficult it is to do over there and win. Let's hope the Ryder Cup team can continue the trend in America next year."

Mrs Bailey added: "I am absolutely thrilled to receive the award on behalf of the team. I must admit when Tony Jacklin's team won the Curtis Cup I was watching the TV and the tears were streaming down my face. Tony led the way for us; his victory gave us the inspiration and determination and most important, the belief that we could do it."

The Great Britain and Ireland team, which became the first side to win a major golf team event on American soil, comprised Lillian Behan, Karen Davies, Claire Hourihane, Patricia Johnson, Mary McKenna, Belle Robertson, Vicki Thomas and Jill Thornhill. Elsie Brown was the vice-captain as the United States were led by 13-5.

Communication a first priority armer means that the new captain need not bowl unless he wishes and the batting talent at his disposal should be more than adequate. A question mark hangs over the future of Lloyd, who will be captaining the Rest of the World during a three-week tour of England; this in addition to several business interests. But probably both Lloyd and Patterson will be available for Lancashire next summer.

Both Hughes and the new coach, Orrison, are desperately keen to aid the revival of Lancashire's fortunes. Along with John Savage, the former Leicestershire and Lancashire off-spinner, a greatly respected coach, the team of three seems quite up to the job. As Orrison put it: "Perhaps our first priority will be communications between the club authorities and the players. People just must not go around not talking to each other."

BADMINTON Players protest at prize cut

BADMINTON

By Richard Eaton

Five leading players, including the world No. 1, Morten Frost, of Denmark, are complaining to the International Badminton Federation about the reduction in singles prize-money levels for next year's World Grand Prix finals.

Among them is the European and Commonwealth champion, Helen Troke, whose mother and manager, Diana, is writing a letter to the IBF on behalf of the English players involved. These include the Commonwealth champion, Steve Baddeley, the England No. 2, Nick Yates, and the former English national champion, Fiona Elliott.

Frost, who is based in London, has already made a verbal complaint. "I am shocked," he said. "I had no warning of it. I shall put up with it for one year, but if we cannot negotiate something better after that then I shall have to consider whether in future it is worthwhile going to the finals."

The IBF can reasonably argue therefore that they have to consider views that are expressed through official channels and purport to be the

opinions of the majority of players.

Unfortunately the drop in singles prize-money seems to be allowing for the compensation of an increased bonus pool for final league placings - in excess of 25 per cent. Complaints could thus have been predicted, which is a pity because the World Grand Prix circuit, originally sponsored with £3 million over three years, and the finals have been one of the most exciting developments in recent times.

Miss Troke, meanwhile, has called the reductions "absolutely disgusting", and Baddeley has described them as "a bit rich". The most cogent argument has been forwarded by Frost. "The game is getting too social," he said. "The singles are paying for the mixed doubles to come into the Grand Prix. It is a significant drop in prize-money that is involved and we must do everything in our power to get it changed."

SPORTS POLITICS

Cost-cutting threat to future of CCPR

By John Goodbody

The rivalry between the Sports Council and the Central Council of Physical Recreation comes to a head today. Just as the CCPR open their annual conference in Bournemouth, their future will be discussed at a meeting in London before the Government's Public Accounts Committee and John Wheatley, the director of the Sports Council.

The Government are concerned that there is both duplication of effort and excessive administrative costs at the CCPR and have taken the unprecedented step of asking Wheatley to appear before the committee, who examine all aspects of Government spending.

The committee will be asking Wheatley to justify the Sports Council's demand for £40,984 million for 1987-88 to fund British sport. This compares to £36,984 million for the present year. The Sports Council have been told that their budget next year should not take into account any increase because of inflation (presently running at 3.5 per cent), a clear warning they are likely to receive the same amount as this year or, in other words, a cut of about £1.3 million.

But I understand the Government are likely to raise the subject of the CCPR, which they fund through the Sports Council. The CCPR, whose president is the Duke of Edinburgh, take an independent line and have Wheatley to appear before the Government policies. They have campaigned vigorously over such general topics as the decline of team sports in schools,

SKIING

Swiss set tough course

Milan (AP) - Technically demanding courses have been prepared for next year's world championships at the Swiss resort of Crans Montana, organizers said yesterday.

Bubi Romaldini, vice-president of the organizing committee and technical director of the championships, said the downhill and giant slalom courses have been re-designed and modified to make them more technical and difficult.

"At present we have sun and no snow," he said. "But tracks will be snowy and perfect by the start of the competition." The championships are scheduled from January 25 through to February 8. Ten world titles - five for women and five for men - will be at stake. Romaldini said the Swiss downhill ace, Peter Mueller, who inspected the modified downhill track, called it terrific.

"We designed it for a victory of Swiss skiers," Romaldini said with a smile. "The steep giant slalom course, with large bends, could be good to Italian skiers." He added that the downhill course for the women's race "is not very fast but very technical".

Romaldini and other Swiss officials spoke at a news conference in Milan. The men's downhill will be run down the 3,670-metre long Nationale track, which drops 981 metres.

The "Chetzeron" track, with a length of 1,207 metres and a drop of 389 metres, will host the men's giant slalom.

The men's and women's slaloms will be held in the bottom part of the Nationale track while the women's downhill will be run down the 2,451-metre long Mont-Lachaux track, dropping 665 metres.

TENNIS

Hobbs will not sell herself short in a last bid for the top

By Sue Mott

Being named after some small goblin in a fantasy forest is not the ideal route to stardom. Especially when you're bent on adding the glittering sheath of glamour to your public image, Hobbitt definitely has a problem.

Actually Anne Hobbs is the name, but for so long has Britain's No. 3 female tennis player been in pinnacles and plights on court, she has become comfortably, affectionately known as Hobbitt and the epithet will not budge. Neither will the concept that she won't manage to win anything, ever, especially now at the advanced age of 27.

To all these irritants Hobbs reacts with no consternation whatever. As far as she is concerned her peak is fast approaching, the public are desperate to adore a successor to Queen Virginia and Wimbledon is there to be won. "No, it's not too late for me," says the woman who has never been beyond the last 16 in the singles of any grand slam event.

She is nothing if not a fighter. One who lists her chief attributes as hard work, dedication and guts. Ms Nastase she is not. "One of the lads," is the consensus from the Press room, but she proved in this year's Wightman Cup in London that she still has the potential to do more than buy pints in the post-match bar.

Britain were a sorry sight, losing, and not even bravely, one rubber after another. Annabel Croft nursed injured feelings (pressures of being Britain's No. 1, she said), Sara Gomer had an injured toe. Suddenly, into this financial procession, Hobbs was summoned as chief pall bearer. She was required to play singles against the world's No. 12, Bonnie Gadusek, and she had about

Getting to grips with the sponsors

two hours to prepare. "I felt mad, but I just went out there and brought the best out of myself," she said. "I knew I'd have to play at my peak and I certainly did. That was the best I'd played all year."

She lost, but from the red draped boxes that hung in tiers around the Albert Hall rang rapturous applause. There is nothing, particularly after popping sponsors' champagne, that warms the British sporting heart more than a gallant loser. And failing to capitalize on that one-set, 3-0 lead has had a positive effect on Hobbs. She believes it could be the start of a surge to come, to the women's top 20 at least.

An important step along the way will be a new sponsor to provide much-needed cash to help transport her coach, Chris Bradnam, to the major tournaments. To this end Hobbs is turning to glamour, although, she admits, less readily than the likes of Croft - to whom modelling comes as a natural alternative to winning tennis matches. As with everything else, Hobbitt is no slouch.

This is, after all, Ms December in the famous W.L.T.A. calendar we are talking about. She has already hit potential sponsors with a beautifully photographed portfolio extolling her virtues and produced by her brother-in-law. So far the response has been disappointing. "Not a single reply," she said calmly. Her next play will be the personal approach, lurching with people who matter and letting them get to grips with her friendly personality while

Determined not to be an also-ran she, hopefully, gets to grips with the £10-15,000 she needs to boost her career.

Her modest success so far has already reaped her generous support from Le Coq Sportif (clothes), Prince (rackets), Lotto (shoes) and Toyota (car - red and sporty with her name on the side). She has a new house in Barret, currently swarming with interior decorators, and took home about £60,000 in prize money last year. This, however, is not enough.

Hobbs insists that she has not sacrificed all semblance of normal life just to be an also-ran in British tennis. "My social life is horrendous," she said. "It's impossible to have one. You have a good time and that's it. I suppose if I say it's like being a sailor everyone will think I'm a slut, but I do enjoy meeting people."

"I'd like to settle down and have children one day, but if I chose that now I'd feel as though I'd wasted all this time. In those precious years to come her ambition to win fame and Wimbledon is supplemented by the more pragmatic need to find a doubles partner. Her former successful pairing with Jo Durie has been thwarted by her ex-partner's desire to concentrate on singles. Another tennis mate, Wendy Turnbull with whom Hobbs reached the final of the US and Australian Opens, has gone off with Hana Mandlikova.

Not being silly, Hobbs likes the idea of Steffi Graf, but is unsure of success. "Hopefully, I'll get someone on the rebound," she said. That is the spirit. The Hobbitt spirit that continues to calve Britain's tennis scene even in its darkest days.

The lesson will be reinforced in precisely similar terms today. Norman and Smith left Cannons Club, London, immediately after their match to catch a flight to Zurich, where they are drawn against each other in the first round of the Swiss Masters.

Norman is scheduled to progress to an immediate return clash against Jahangir in the Swiss final on Monday.

"All the signs are there," Pollard said.

Norman, who caused a sensation last week when he wrested the world championship away from the mighty Jahangir Khan, learned yesterday something of the psychological burden he has assumed after years of second-ary pursuit.

Playing at first string for InterCity-Cannons, the team he led to the American Express premier division championship last season, Norman, aged 27, found himself embroiled in a

Exmoor radar inquiry

A public inquiry next month will determine whether Exmoor is to have its controversial dome-shaped, early-warning radar station.

After earlier being rebuffed by the Exmoor National Park authority, a proposal to have the station built on Five Barrows Cross, the South West Water Authority now want it sited 1,560 feet up on Castle Common, Shoulsbarrow.

The national park authorities have turned down the proposal on conservation grounds, saying it would be an unacceptable intrusion into a remote part of the park and contrary to the structure plan.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, has ordered the inquiry at Dulverton on December 8 and it is expected to last for a week.

The water authority wants the station as the last link in their early warning chain. The long-standing gap in the West Country weather reporting service between Ilfracombe and Weston super Mare will be plugged with the building of Mithelstan's new weather station by Christmas.

Tesco store

Tesco have been given the go-ahead for a new multi-million pound superstore employing 380 people on the outskirts of Kings Lynn, Norfolk.

SQUASH RACKETS

Norman in the firing line

By Colin McQuillan

Ross Norman, the New Zealander who caused a sensation last week when he wrested the world championship away from the mighty Jahangir Khan, learned yesterday something of the psychological burden he has assumed after years of second-ary pursuit.

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Cash boost for grand prix The world grand prix circuit, launched less than a year ago, will carry prize money of \$743,000 (about £523,000) in 1987 - a 27 per cent increase over this year. Next year's circuit will comprise at least 19 events in 16 countries, compared with 16 events in 14 countries this year. Negotiations to find a sponsor



Hobbs: a fighter who is more than a gutsy substitute

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom of the page.

FOOTBALL

Cherry tells Bradford to concentrate on playing matters only

Forget Brian Clough: he is not playing. That will be part of Trevor Cherry's pre-match advice to his Bradford City players before today's Littlewoods Cup tie against Nottingham Forest.

second round and Crystal Palace nearly knocked us out in the last round. We expect Bradford to be even tougher.

troubled by a foot injury. If he is ruled out Adrian Heath could drop back allowing Paul Wilkinson to regain his front line place.

Time is running out for troubled Halifax

Hopes of saving the fourth division side, Halifax Town, are looking bleak. Calderdale council have turned down two survival plans which were put forward by developers.

Friday's adjourned meetings of shareholders and creditors want a resolution to wind up the club, which has debts of more than £400,000, is likely to be put.

Duxbury to stay at United

The Manchester United manager, Alex Ferguson, has accepted Mike Duxbury to stay with the club, though he had not realized that the former England full back was on the transfer list.

FA and League set up joint committee

The FA yesterday agreed to set up a new joint committee with the Football League, with a view to a bigger say in the running of the professional game.

TEAMS: O'Hall (Dundee), Keany (Shamrock Rovers), Harrison (Derry City), Coady (Shamrock Rovers), Doolin (Shamrock Rovers), P. P. Wane (Shamrock Rovers), King (Derry City), Keogh (Dundee), M. Byrne (Shamrock Rovers), Gaynor (Limerick City).

City's tight security

Birmingham City, in conjunction with the West Midlands police, will be implementing stringent security measures to counter any threat of crowd trouble at this weekend's home game with Leeds United.



Great Wall game: Bobby Charlton, once the superstar of the West, meets two rising stars of the East during a work-out on China's famous landmark. Charlton is visiting China for the forthcoming China Cup international youth tournament

Quinn asks for a transfer

Jimmy Quinn, the Blackburn Rovers forward, has been transferred at his own request. Quinn had a frustrating World Cup with Northern Ireland in Mexico, where he was unable to play because of an insect tendon injury which has haunted him ever since.

Thijs succeeds in getting his man

Guy Thijs, the Belgium manager, last night won his battle with Bayern Munich for the release of his goalkeeper, Jean-Marie Pfaff, for tonight's European Championship qualifying match against Bulgaria in Brussels.

Caernarfon to make decision

A decision on the venue of the FA Cup second round tie between North Wales part-timers Caernarfon Town and York City is expected to be announced today.

Maradona bid

Munich (AP) - The Argentine international, Diego Maradona, is ready to move to Bayern Munich when his contract with Naples expires, a West German newspaper reported yesterday.

Collins for US

Phil Collins, the England speedway international, is to ride in California next year after becoming disillusioned with British speedway.

Bourneville blow

Swinton's second division Rugby League title hopes have suffered a setback with the news that the New Zealand winger, Mark Bourneville, will be out for at least three months with a broken arm sustained in his third outing for the club against Doncaster on Sunday.

Top two play out dull draw

Montevideo (Reuter) - Uruguay's classic derby between Peñarol and Nacional brought the fans flocking back to the Centenario stadium for the first time since the World Cup finals.

Five-a-side kick-off

Budapest (AP) - The first official international indoor five-a-side tournament organized by FIFA opened here yesterday with qualification games.

Llewellyn fined by stewards

David Llewellyn found himself £120 worse off yesterday morning after being fined by the rally stewards.

Clearing a hurdle

Chinese judges of track and field events will take English-language examinations to qualify to officiate at international athletics events.

Needham move

Surrey have released all-rounder Andy Needham at his own request. Needham, 30, joined the club's staff in 1977 and was capped last year.

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MOTOR RALLYING

The Forest sorts the wood from the trees

It was the third longest stage of the Lombard RAC Rally that separated the leading contenders yesterday. Five seconds had covered the top four cars over the 100.38 miles of the forest stage.

The drivers are not allowed practice on the RAC special stages and tackle the roads without detailed pace notes. The RAC information manual describes the 100.38 miles in Grisedale as "a very difficult stage".

Castle O'er had been tackled just as dawn was breaking. Second man overall at Edinburgh, Timo Salonen raced through the two surrounding roads of the castle, shattering spectators with stones and mud. He was obviously trying very, very hard.

Not so lucky was tenth-placed Per Eklund. He lost around three minutes when a rear tyre on his MG Metro 6R4 punctured. He drove about three miles on the rim, his falling tyre removing the rear mudguard and the vibrations seriously damaging the drive shaft.

He lost further time before the next control as mechanics replaced the differential. He still seemed relatively cheerful but said that the balance of power between the front and rear wheels was not right and he was having difficulties.

He was not the only one in trouble. Russell Brookes, who had looked very positive before the special stage 30 at Grisedale, stopped his Opel Monza 400 with engine problems. Brookes' Ford RS200 had already been retired when the engine overheated. Unlucky thirteenth overall at Edinburgh was David Gillanders, whose MG Metro 6R4 was towed by a piston through the engine block.

Originally 150 cars left Bath on Sunday. There were still 111 in the rally at Edinburgh yesterday morning. It will be a 3.30am start from Liverpool for today's final leg to Bath and the result is still unpredictable.

LEADING POSITIONS (after 22 stages): 1. T. Salonen (Fin, Peugeot 205), 2nd 24min 22sec; 2. M. Alen (Fin, Lancia Delta), 32min 36.3; 3. M. Ericsson (Swe, Lancia Delta), 32min 36.4; 4. J. Kankkunen (Fin, Peugeot 205), 32min 37.1; 5. P. Pons (GB, MG Metro 6R4), 32min 37.7; 6. G. Grunel (Swe, MG Metro 6R4), 32min 38.1; 7. J. Metcalfe (GB, MG Metro 6R4), 32min 38.2; 8. H. Demuth (FR, Audi Quattro), 34min 25.1; 9. M. Toivonen (Fin, MG Metro 6R4), 34min 43.3.

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A day of break-ups and break-downs

It may be true that BBC Television is not creating a precedent by spinning Otto Preminger's movie *Exodus* in two parts one, BBC1, 2.00pm, with part two tomorrow. But because this back-breaking of films has happened before does not mean that the practice is right. If Preminger had not shuffled off this mortal coil earlier in the year, it would probably have been him, not me, who would be taking the BBC to task. The fact that *Exodus* falls a long way short of being a movie classic is neither here nor there. It was conceived as a tale that goes from *Z*, without needing a day's intermission when it reaches *M*. Whatever dramatic impact it has is cumulative. Dividing it into two may suit the scheduling purposes of the BBC, but it does not suit the film. It is not a serial, and ought not to have been treated like one.

CHOICE

Its title, *Breaking Up*, is the only connection between Nigel Williams's new four-part drama serial (BBC2, 9.25pm) and my mean about *Exodus*. What is being broken up in Williams's tale is the domestic scenery against which a 13-year-old lad lives out his troubled days. Mother and father are going at each other like hammer and tongs. Small wonder that the boy's housemaster, in producing the school *Hamlet*, tells the youngster that his Ophelia reeks of existential gloom. What I particularly like about Williams's back and forth between absurdity and heartache without making us feel giddy or disorientated. There are four strong performances in episode one, by the lad (Tim

Haynes), the parents (Eileen Atkins, Dave King) and the humane academic (Alan Bennett). I feared, initially, that *The Visit* (BBC1, 9.35pm) was going to be another broken-backed film, like *Exodus*. Part two of Desmond Wilcox's documentary about a Bangladeshi orphanage that has been adopted by British Airways staff begins by reiterating much of what we learned last week in part one. Happily, this recapitulation does not go on for long, and very soon we begin to see the full extent of the physical, financial and emotional commitment that these BA crew members have made so that the work of the orphanage can continue. A serious crisis, briefly mentioned last week, concerns the need to acquire new site for the orphanage before the little charges are evicted. This becomes the heart of the drama in tonight's concluding film, and the remark-

able climax is staged in the presidential palace with the BA benefactors, sundry British envoys, and Desmond Wilcox himself, in attendance. Musical highlights tonight include the studio re-staging of Kent Opera's highly acclaimed 1984 production of Tippett's opera *King Priam* (Channel 4, 9.00pm), with Rodney Macann in the title role, and strong support from Janet Price and Sarah Walker. Radio 3 carries the whole of the Royal Concert from the Royal Festival Hall (7.55pm), with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and two violin soloists, Yehudi Menuhin and Leland Chen. It is a fine and popular programme, predictably climaxing with Elgarian pomp and circumstance.

Peter Davalle



Dave King as the father and Tim Haynes as the son in *Breaking Up*, BBC2, 9.25pm

BBC1

- 6.00 **Ceeffax AM.** 6.55 **Weather.**
- 7.00 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough, Sally Magnusson and Jeremy Paxman. National and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00. Regional news and travel information at 7.15, 7.45, 8.15 and 8.45; weather at 7.25, 7.55, 8.25 and 8.55.
- 9.05 **The End of the Pier Show.** A 40-minute programme about the old-style pier theatre at Cromer, one of the few remaining in the country. (r) 8.45 **Advice Shop.** Margo MacDonald with some advice on dealing with the local DHSS office. 10.00 **Neighbours** (r) 10.20 **The Wombles.** (r)
- 10.25 **Phillip Schofield** with news of children's programmes. 10.30 **Play School** with Wayne Jackman and Janet Palmer. 10.50 **Henry's Cat.** Cartoon (r) 10.55 **Five to Eleven.** Saheed Jaffrey with a thought for the day.
- 11.00 **Day Out: A tour of the West Country** with Angela Rippon, from Sham Castle in Bath to the village of Rod. (r)
- 11.30 **Open Air.** Viewers' comments on yesterday's programmes.
- 12.25 **Airport 86 - Live.** The programme follows Paula Paterson, air stewardess, on her flight. Also featured is the D & D Call at West Drayton, an interview with woman pilot Jill Develin, flying instructor and First Officer on Viscounts; and Oliver Smeaton talks about his fear of flying. 12.55 **Regional News.** Weather.
- 1.00 **News with Marilyn Lewis.** Weather. 1.25 **Neighbours.** Weekday soap set in a Melbourne suburb. 1.50 **Little Misses.** A See-Saw programme.
- 2.00 **Film: Exodus (1960)** starring Paul Newman, Eva Marie Saint and Ralph Richardson. Part one of an epic based on Leon

BBC2

- 9.00 **Ceeffax**
- 9.15 **Daytime on Two.** Scotland's oil industry (r) 9.35 **Ceeffax 10.00** For the very young (r) 10.15 **Two bridges spanning 200 years of development** (r) 10.38 **Measurements in science** (r) 11.00 **Words and pictures** (r) 11.17 **Scottish Farming** (r) (r) 11.40 **How fashions reflect society** (r)
- 12.02 **Maths: Statistics** (r) 12.25 **Jobs in public transport** (r) 12.48 **Spanish** (r) 1.10 **Issues of Law** (r) 1.38 **The Vikings** (2) (r) 2.00 **Thinkabout: colours** (r) 2.15 **Winter Festival in Sweden** (r)
- 2.35 **Sports Afternoon.** David Ikin introduces a new topical series, which this week features a test cricket from Australia and international tennis. 3.55 **Regional news and weather.**
- 4.00 **Pamela Armstrong.** Chat show.
- 4.35 **To the World's End.** Scenes and characters along the route of London bus No 31. With music by Carl Davis. (r)
- 5.30 **Cover to Cover** presented by Jill Neville. Features are Stephen Fry, Tom Davies and Clive James, whose book of poems *Other Passports* is also discussed. Other books reviewed are *These Times*, essays by Bernard Lewis in *New Yorker Book of Cartoons* and *Dona Flor and Her Two Husbands* by Brazilian Jorge Amado.
- 6.00 **Film: The Law and Jake Wade (1958)** A Western starring Robert Taylor and Richard Widmark. Marshal Jake Wade helps an outlaw, his one-time partner, to escape from jail but finds himself forced to join an outlaw life. Directed by John Sturges.
- 7.25 **Cricket: First Test.** Highlights of the first day's play between Australia and England.
- 7.50 **Rally Report 85.** Live report on the final stages of the Lombard/RAC Rally.
- 8.30 **Out of Court.** A series about law-makers and law-breakers. Presented by David Jessel and Sue Cook.
- 9.00 **M*A*S*H.** Hawkeye operates on a very important patient and finds himself revered for his medical skills by General Mitchell. (r)
- 9.25 **Breaking Up.** A drama in four parts by Nigel Williams starring Eileen Atkins, Dave King, Alan Bennett and Tim Haynes. (See Choice).
- 10.20 **The Trouble with Sec.** Dr John Skitchley, a psychologist who is himself homosexual, counsels Goli, a 16-year-old teacher (played by Hooper) who for years has suppressed his true sexuality. He is now facing the dilemma of how coming out will affect his social and professional life.
- 10.50 **A Party Political Broadcast** by the Conservative Party.
- 10.55 **Newsnight** 11.40 **Weather.**

ITV/LONDON

- 9.25 **Thames news headlines.**
- 9.30 **Schools: Maths.** (r) 9.42 **The making of TV programmes.** 9.59 **Junior Maths** 10.16 **Physics experiments** 10.33 **Poetry 11.00** China's cultural heritage 11.22 **Clipping sound** (r) 11.39 **Paris: a restaurant in France.**
- 12.00 **The Giddy Game Show** (r) 12.10 **Our Backyard** (r)
- 12.30 **Spot-Ons.** Tim Sanders-Taylor explores the countryside around Rochester including the churchyard on the marshes where Charles Dickens set *Great Expectations*, and takes a cruise on the last working paddle steamer.
- 1.00 **News at One** Includes an live interview with the Prime Minister at Downing Street by Leonard Parfitt. 1.30 **Thames News.**
- 1.30 **A Country Practice.** Medical drama serial set in rural Australia. 2.30 **Farmhouses Kitchen.** Grace Mulgan demonstrates Cullen Skirak, a Scottish fish soup, and prepares fresh mussels with parsley and garlic. 3.00 **Take the High Road.** 9.25 **Thames news headlines** 3.30 **Sons and Daughters.**
- 4.00 **Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends.** Narrated by Ringo Starr. 4.10 **The Yellow 4.20 S.W.A.L.L.O.W.** A series in which David Bellamy explores everyday life. Today he joins young investigators in the Lake District, becomes a giant Pooh-stick and gets a special pair of shoes fitted by a blacksmith. 4.45 **Hold Tight** includes Broadside stars Samon O'Brien and Shelagh O'Hara.
- 5.15 **Blockbusters.** Bob Holness presents another round of the general knowledge quiz game for teenagers.
- 5.45 **News with Alistair Stewart**
- 6.25 **Help! Vin Taylor** Gae presents the latest community action news.
- 6.35 **Crossroads.**

CHANNEL 4

- 2.20 **Their Lordships' House.** Highlights from yesterday's proceedings in the House of Lords.
- 2.35 **Film: Laxdale Hall** (1953) starring Ronald Squire, Kathleen Ryan and Raymond Huntley. A British-made comedy in which a group of rebel Hebridean islanders refuse to pay their road fund finances until a new road and pier are provided by the authorities. Directed by John Eldridge.
- 4.00 **News on 4.** Mavis Nicholson presents the second of *Predicaments*, today devoted to the subject of infertility. Three people discuss the emotional difficulty of coming to terms.
- 4.30 **Countdown.** The challenger is amateur guitarist Stella Haffenden-Smith from Hitchin, Hertfordshire.
- 5.00 **Hogan's Heroes.** Vintage American comedy series about a group of resourceful Allied prisoners-of-war in a German POW camp. Directed by Robert Clipp. A made-for-television thriller about a series of murders of centre page girls in a monthly magazine. Directed by William A. Graham.
- 5.25 **The Hollywood.** Clips featuring Mickey Rourke, Frank Sinatra and James Dean.
- 12.50 **Night Thoughts.**

TV-AM

- 6.15 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Anne Diamond and Richard Keys. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; financial news at 6.55; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; exercises at 6.55 and 9.17; cartoon at 7.25; pop music at 7.55; and a video report at 8.35. The After Nine quiz includes *Lea Rose*, Rossington from *Crossroads*; plus an investigation into a new technique for testing human ability.

VARIATIONS

- BBC1** WALSLEY: 5.55pm-8.00 *Wales Today* 8.00-8.15 *News* 8.15-8.30 *Wales Today* 8.30-8.45 *News* 8.45-9.00 *Wales Today* 9.00-9.15 *News* 9.15-9.30 *Wales Today* 9.30-9.45 *News* 9.45-10.00 *Wales Today* 10.00-10.15 *News* 10.15-10.30 *Wales Today* 10.30-10.45 *News* 10.45-11.00 *Wales Today* 11.00-11.15 *News* 11.15-11.30 *Wales Today* 11.30-11.45 *News* 11.45-12.00 *Wales Today* 12.00-12.15 *News* 12.15-12.30 *Wales Today* 12.30-12.45 *News* 12.45-1.00 *Wales Today* 1.00-1.15 *News* 1.15-1.30 *Wales Today* 1.30-1.45 *News* 1.45-2.00 *Wales Today* 2.00-2.15 *News* 2.15-2.30 *Wales Today* 2.30-2.45 *News* 2.45-3.00 *Wales Today* 3.00-3.15 *News* 3.15-3.30 *Wales Today* 3.30-3.45 *News* 3.45-4.00 *Wales Today* 4.00-4.15 *News* 4.15-4.30 *Wales Today* 4.30-4.45 *News* 4.45-5.00 *Wales Today* 5.00-5.15 *News* 5.15-5.30 *Wales Today* 5.30-5.45 *News* 5.45-6.00 *Wales Today* 6.00-6.15 *News* 6.15-6.30 *Wales Today* 6.30-6.45 *News* 6.45-7.00 *Wales Today* 7.00-7.15 *News* 7.15-7.30 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SPORT

Victory firmly in sight after a hard day's fight

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Brisbane

England had a hard, hot, long and ultimately rewarding day here in the first Test match against Australia yesterday. It was made for them in the first hour and the last, in each of which they took two wickets. As a result, they will be very disappointed not to win today. With five second-innings wickets standing, Australia are 35 runs ahead.

For much of yesterday the temperature hovered around the 90° mark, and if there was a stiff breeze, rising at times to a strong wind, to temper the heat it was still a grand effort on England's part to show no signs of wilting. As in Australia's first innings, the spinners, especially Emburey, played an important part, bowling 63 of the day's 102 overs and nagging away at the batsmen's nerves.

Australia found in Geoff Marsh the anchor they were looking for. It says a lot for him that he, too, never lost his concentration. Before the start of play Ian Chappell, the former Australian captain, was to be heard urging the Australians to be more positive in their handling of Emburey and Edmonds.

In the event, Jones got out in trying to be and Marsh made little attempt at it. Not really, did Ritchie, who added 113 for the fourth wicket with Marsh. With only 30 minutes left, these two seemed to have taken Australia well within reach of survival.

Marsh's hundred was his third in only his tenth Test match, and his first at home, and it took 19 hours the time he has battled against the English bowling in the last 12 days. If you are wondering how he plays, try thinking of two of Australia's most recent opening batsmen, Dyson and McCosker. He is from that same deliberate mould. Perhaps the nearest he came to being out was when he was 88 and one of Gower's quick under-arm returns, made as he

ENGLAND: First innings 458 (1 T Botham 138, G W J Athey 76, M W Gatting 61, D I Gower 51). AUSTRALIA: First innings 248 (G R G Gair 108, M J Gidman 56, M G Hughes 44, G R Dilley 40, M G Johnson 38). Second innings: D C Booth 104, G Marsh 104, G R Gair 108, M J Gidman 56, M G Hughes 44, G R Dilley 40, M G Johnson 38. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-24, 2-44, 3-82, 4-203, 5-222. BOWLING (to date): Botham 12-0-34-1, Dilley 16-5-35-1, Emburey 38-13-75-2, Gair 10-0-24-1, Edmonds 24-0-45-0, Gatting 2-0-2-0. Umpires: A R Crafter and M W Johnson.

so at the 'Gabbra by four o'clock. When four o'clock came, we looked like getting another 10 minutes' play at the most, but the clouds broke up and in the end there was a full day, lasting until 5.30.

England had taken the first hour by a distance, Australia the second after a hard struggle. After playing through the opening half hour as though they had all the answers, much as had happened in their first innings on Sunday, Australia suddenly filtered. Each day, for the benefit of television, Tony Greig tests the pitch with a variety of instruments. Until now, it had always been moist; yesterday it was as dry



Bailed out Jones, of Australia, is removed by a smart piece of stumping from England wicketkeeper, Richards

Change not in the air at Lord's

By Ivo Tennant

Recommendations to change the structure of county cricket are not expected to be accepted by the Test and County Cricket Board at their winter meeting on December 11. This means that four-day matches are not likely to become a part of the 1988 county championship.

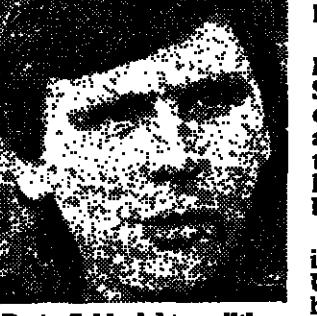
The TCCB held a consultative meeting at Lord's yesterday to consider, among other matters, the Palmer Report's investigations into English cricket which was published earlier this year. It appears the status quo will be maintained in domestic cricket.

There was support for some four-day cricket but perhaps not enough for it to be included in the 1988 fixture list. Alan Smith, chief executive designate of the TCCB, said: "There was not a lot of backing for doing away with one of the two knock-out competitions and I do not think there is likely to be any change in the amount of limited-overs cricket played on Sundays."

Aberdeen want Porterfield as successor to Ferguson

By Hugh Taylor

Aberdeen sprang a surprise last night when they named Ian Porterfield as the man they want to succeed Alex Ferguson. The former Rotherham and Sheffield United manager was offered the post after he had been interviewed by the Pittodrie board which consists of Dick Donald and his son Ian and he is expected to accept the position soon.



Porterfield: right qualities

Although Porterfield, who played for Raith Rovers and Sunderland, had an impressive record at Bramall Lane, his name had not been mentioned among the list of possible candidates for the club's plum job.

Among those who were thought to be about to be asked to consider joining Aberdeen were such major managerial stars as Jim McLean of Dundee United, Billy McNeill of Aston Villa and Jock Wallace of Seville.

"and we hope he will make up his mind quickly." Porterfield, an astute wing half with Raith Rovers and Sunderland, became the hero of the English north east town after an outstanding display in the 1973 FA Cup final when he scored the winning goal to beat Leeds United.

Although he was surprisingly dismissed by Sheffield United he was held in the highest respect by his fellow professionals and became a name to conjure with in Yorkshire football circles during his highly successful reign. "He is a tremendous worker," Donald said. But Porterfield will have to be much more than that to impress the Aberdeen supporters, who have been accustomed to all the honours in a decade of the most glorious success in the club's history.

Persistence pays off

By close of play Marsh had batted for a total of 19hr 20min against England already this season - and been dismissed by three deliveries out of 839. "I knew my job was to still be there at the end of play," Marsh said. He hit a century for Australia's Under-19s at Lord's in 1977.

"I concentrated on scoring ten runs, then another ten and so on. Whenever I felt my concentration slipping I took a little walk away from the crease to gather my thoughts. This century as the one I really wanted because the other two Test hundreds were made abroad, in New Zealand and India. The fact that Dad was watching me for the first time in a Test match made it even better."

"There is a lot of cricket left in this Test and, if we bat well, we can get a draw out of it," he said.

"This was the Test hundred I wanted," Marsh said. "My other two have been abroad and it's extra special for me because Dad was here to see it."

The spinner, John Emburey, aged 34, who picked up two wickets for 78 runs during a marathon 39-over stint today, said: "I am sure we can do it now. Ideally, we would like to get the final five wickets before lunch tomorrow and then knock off the runs by tea. Hopefully, our target will not be much more than 120."

"It was a day when we had to keep plugging away and the wicket of Greg Matthews just before the close was very useful."

Advertisement for JOHNSON MATTHEY PLATINUM A UNIQUE INVESTMENT. Includes an image of platinum bars and text describing the investment opportunity.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Moriarty operation

Richard Moriarty, who took over as captain of Wales during last summer's tour of the South Pacific, is almost certain to miss this season's Five Nations championship (David Hands). The Swansea forward went to hospital yesterday for an examination of the shoulder he dislocated at the weekend and will return there at the end of next week for an operation to correct the damage.

It is the third time he has dislocated the shoulder but if his recovery period means he will miss playing for Wales this season, he should at least be fully fit before their world cup squad is chosen.

Moriarty, aged 29, has been capped 16 times by Wales, mainly as a lock though he has played in the back row. He took over the captaincy of his country when David Pickering (Llanelli) was injured playing against Fiji in June and had to return home. He is also captain of Swansea, for whom he has played regularly this season both in the second row and the back row.

This latest misfortune occurred during his club's cup win at Tredegar on Saturday. Moriarty's left shoulder will need to be planned and the tendons shortened to strengthen the limb. If all goes well he should be playing again by early March but Wales, who begin the championship against Ireland on January 17, conclude their programme on March 21, against Scotland.

Applicants

Telford and the Aston Villa Leisure Centre are among the applicants for one of the eight places in the new National Tennis League to be launched in February. Telford, who have appointed former British Davis Cup player John Paish as their captain and resident coach, have also named the former Derby County and Welsh international footballer, Alan Durban, as their manager.

"We are in the market to sign the best available foreign player," said Paish. "We have everything planned and our objective is simple - to win the League."

Challengers

Sharon Jones and Paul Askham (Atrincham), who successfully defended their title at the British Ice Dance championships at Nottingham last weekend, head Britain's challenge in Europe and World competition next year.

Valuable

New York (AP) - Roger Clemens, whose 24-4 record led the Boston Red Sox into the World Series, on Tuesday, was named the American League's Most Valuable Player, the first starting pitcher to win the award in 15 years.

Cycle award

The Liverpool professional cyclist, Joey McLoughlin, Britain's first winner of the Milk Race for ten years, was being awarded the sport's top regional honour, the golden cycle trophy, by the British Cycling Federation.

Werbeniuk may be forced to quit circuit

By Sydney Friskin

Bill Werbeniuk, of Canada, who was eliminated from the first round of the Tennent's UK Championship at Preston last night, after his 9-5 defeat by Dene O'Kane, of New Zealand, that he might have to quit the circuit.

Werbeniuk complained that the intervals between the qualifying rounds and the final stages of open tournaments were much too long. He made particular reference to the Dulux British Open

Hay gives Celtic a warning

By Hugh Taylor

Celtic players will take the field at Easter Road tonight to play Hibernian with a warning from their manager ringing in their ears. Although they are leading the league, having taken 22 out of the last available 24 points, and are visiting opponents whose fortunes are at their nadir, David Hay demands that the premier division champions stay on guard.

"We must remember that Easter Road has never been a happy hunting ground for us," he recalled. Certainly the big Celtic following travelling to Edinburgh have sad memories of how Hibs dismissed their favourites from both the Scottish and Skol cups last season.

So gloomy is the picture at Easter Road, however, that there appears little hope of a result tonight to brighten the sad faces of the dissatisfied home supporters. Not only are Hibs left without a manager, several players may be missing because of a wave of influenza.

Rangers, too, should stay firmly in contention in their race for the championship, although their task is more formidable than that of their Glasgow rivals. Dundee, their opponents at Ibrox, have played more relaxed football this season and as a result find themselves among the elite who aspire to honours.

Of the championship hopefuls, Hearts of Midlothian are facing the most worrying challenge. They are away to Motherwell, a side now starting to believe in themselves and the methods laid down by their manager, Tommy McLean. Hearts will have to show the determination and fighting spirit which enabled them to beat Aberdeen on Saturday if they are to win at Fir Park.

Trying to give up a bad habit

By John Goodbody

Sports News Correspondent Cigarette sponsorship of sports events, currently worth nearly £10 million, may come to an end because of the latest moves to bar the televising of competitions supported by tobacco companies.

The Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA), which the ITV companies is considering the "phasing out" of sports events sponsored by tobacco companies. But they will make no decision until they hear the results of negotiations between Dick Tracey, the Sports Minister, and the Tobacco Advisory Council.

The IBA's moves would chiefly affect horse racing and snooker. But it will also mean that there fewer future options for cigarette companies hoping for exposure of sports events they sponsor.

Most of the big events supported by tobacco companies, like last week's Benson and Hedges tennis tournament at Wembley, are screened by the BBC for whom a spokesman said yesterday: "We have contracts with a number of sporting bodies who stage events sponsored by tobacco companies. We will fulfil those agreements."

"But we will watch the IBA's moves with interest and like them we are awaiting the outcome of the talks between the Sports Minister and the Tobacco Advisory Council."

The BBC has already imposed strict new regulations on the organizers of televised snooker and tennis tournaments, prohibiting the use of distinctive colours associated with tobacco companies.

Sport of sporting new colours

This came into force for last month's Rothmans Grand Prix snooker tournament in Reading. Last week, the usual gold of the Benson and Hedges billboards round the Wembley tennis court was changed to a curious shade of pink and the BBC seemed to be doing its very best not to mention the sponsors.

Television advertising of cigarettes has been banned for 20 years but critics maintain that sponsorship of sport has been used to circumvent the ban. Mr Bill Cotton, the managing director of the BBC, has said that "BBC airtime is being used to sell cigarettes. The BBC has to respond to the mass surrounding the effect tobacco sponsorship has on smoking habits among the young."

Any moves to eliminate the televising of tobacco-sponsored sports events will delight the British Medical Authority, who has repeatedly campaigned for an end to linking sports events - and their healthy image - with tobacco.

ITV and BBC were to stop screening these events, the tobacco companies would almost certainly withdraw their sponsorship. A spokesman for the Tobacco Advisory Council agreed yesterday: "That is a fairly reasonable assumption. Tobacco companies are not sponsoring events out of altruistic motives."

"As far as we are concerned the sport wants the sponsorship. The public wants the sports events and we want the exposure. It seems a fair deal all round."

"If tobacco companies do not get the proper recognition it is not worth it when they are putting up six figure sums. This applies to all sponsorship, not just tobacco companies."

'Vast effect' over 20 years on cricket

"There is no doubt that tobacco companies have had a vast effect on cricket over the last 20 years. Donald Carr of the Test and County Cricket Board has said that cricket would now be a less professional game without the impact of the John Player League and the Benson and Hedges competitions. Players' wages have risen and the competitions have generated more interest."

"I suspect that the television companies are reacting to the sniping by the anti-smoking lobby. Last week the BBC seemed to have got themselves into a tangle at Wembley. There was not the traditional colouring of gold and you had to be on your toes even to see it was the Benson and Hedges tournament."

In 1976, the Tobacco Companies agreed to increase annually the amount of sponsorship only by the rate of inflation. As sponsorship of sport soars this year towards £150 million, tobacco companies are getting a smaller and smaller part of the business. By the end of the 1980s cigarette sponsorship seems likely to have disappeared from sport altogether.

Large advertisement for WINDMILLS OF INNOCENCE zealous helping. Includes a large image of a windmill and text.

Handwritten text in a box: 150